

# Let's knit

THIS MONTH'S  
FREE GIFTS:

ISSUE 39 FEB 2011

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## Quick & Pretty! Knits

Handbag, shawl, homewares  
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STRIPES



PLAYTIME  
FUN



20  
FAB  
DESIGNS  
to inspire  
you

LOVELY LACE  
COWL AND  
WRISTIES  
from one  
skein!

READ IT!  
5 MOST COMMON  
PROBLEMS  
WE SOLVE THEM

• Opening a yarn shop  
– one reader who's  
living the dream

PLUS: CHUNKY CAPE ■ BEAUTIFUL BLANKET ■ TUNISIAN CROCHE



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and wish they could do something equally amazing. However, the best kept secret in the knitting world is that, despite appearances, lace knitting isn't actually all that difficult! With a modicum of concentration any knitter can create something really exquisite – usually using only one skein of yarn. That's the case with the two lace projects in this issue, Anniken Allis' cowl and mitts (p12) and Abi Flynn's sparkly sock-yarn shawl (p58). The shawl is a great novice project as sock yarn is less fiddly than delicate laceweight and the chart has been helpfully annotated to make it easier to follow. Plus it's gorgeous!

Our gift this issue is a yarn called Cookie, another in our exclusive Charlotte Lewis range. It's a unique bobble-style yarn that feels almost impossibly soft. Turn to page 38 for a choice of five designs to knit with it.

Sarah

This issue we're hoping to inspire you to try something new, from clever stitches that create unusual textures to whole new crafts like Tunisian crochet (see our tutorial on page 68 and project on page 70). Knitting can be as simple or as complex as you wish it to be. While it's perfectly possible never to deviate from plain stocking stitch, and create some beautiful things into the bargain, it's a little like learning how to play the piano and only ever playing one song! To help you broaden your repertoire we've got cabling (p18-23), frills (p28), stripes (p30) and smocking (p56) and that's just for starters.

If knitting was ice-skating then lace knitting would be the equivalent of executing a triple toe-loop jump with a perfect landing – it makes everyone go 'wow!'

**“If knitting was ice-skating then lace knitting would be the equivalent of executing a triple toe-loop jump with a perfect landing”**



## Also in this issue...



**Zoë Halstead** has created this season's must-have garment – a stunning chunky cape in a stylish self-patterning yarn. Turn to page 33 to get knitting.



**Lucinda Ganderton** has been inspired by the trend for knitted lampshades and has designed a gorgeous example on page 48.



**New Year savings!**  
Turn to page 82 to see our latest subscription offers!

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**DISCLAIMER:** We recommend that readers use the main specified yarn for every project as this will produce the best results. The alternatives given are suggestions only, and as no two yarns are exactly the same we advise readers to swatch an alternative yarn carefully before choosing to use it for their project.

## Adrienne Chandler

Deputy Editor

## This month...

I spun my very own skein of yarn at a fascinating workshop. Read all about it on page 43.

I've also been addressing five common knitting problems, learn more on page 73.

## My favourite project this month is...

Dionne, our fabulous clutch bag made using Tunisian crochet (p70)! This is such an easy technique to learn and the honeycomb stitch pattern is really effective.



## Elaine Bennett

Editorial Assistant

## This month...

I've been on the road visiting new yarn shop Tricolette where I spoke to owner Lynn Lester about setting up her own business (p36) and I've also learnt how to knit a moebius basket (p43).

## My favourite project in this issue is...

Beth, our heart sampler blanket by Julie Ferguson (p50). The three contemporary colours look gorgeous together and it's perfect for keeping your family cosy this winter.



**Issue 40 on sale**

Friday 11th February 2011

## ON OUR COVER

Model: Hollie Simmons  
Hair and make up: Dottie Monaghan  
Fashion stylist: Boo Hill  
Photographer: Ant Jones  
Hollie is wearing: Jacket £24.99, TK Maxx





## patterns

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A dainty, lacy cowl and handwarmers set by Anniken Allis

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Combine kimono sleeves with chunky cables in this cosy jacket

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Applique pocket motifs are great for little girls

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Tiny tots will love this textured toy

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Our Dionne bag uses Tunisian crochet honeycomb stitch



## WHO CARES? WE DO!

At Let's Knit we understand that nothing is more annoying than errors in knitting patterns. As part of our total commitment to ensuring that your experience of our magazine is as enjoyable as possible, we're proud to offer THE LET'S KNIT PATTERN PROMISE:

- Exclusive patterns featured in Let's Knit have been professionally checked and reproduced with the utmost care. Updates can be found at [www.letsknit.co.uk](http://www.letsknit.co.uk)
- Should you encounter any problems we are more than happy to provide support and assistance. Contact us and we will endeavour to respond as soon as possible.

By email: [support@letsknit.co.uk](mailto:support@letsknit.co.uk)

By telephone: 01206 508622 (office hours only)

By post: at the address on page 3 (please mark your envelope 'Support')

(Please note we cannot offer assistance with patterns not published in Let's Knit)

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**This month's free gift:**  
Cookie, our exclusive  
bobbie yarn by Charlotte  
Lewis designs.



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OR GO ONLINE AND VISIT [WWW.LETSKNIT.CO.UK](http://WWW.LETSKNIT.CO.UK)





After a hectic Christmas season what better way to treat yourself than to have a day out at the Stitch and Creative Crafts Show at Manchester Central between 3rd-5th February.

It's the ideal opportunity to stock up on all your favourite crafty goodies and the new 'Have a go' area is perfect for trying out all the latest products for free. LK faves Toft Alpaca will also be giving knitted necklace workshops. **Enter the code PR2 to save £2 off the £7.50 door price when booking in advance at [www.sccshows.co.uk](http://www.sccshows.co.uk)**

# make a date

## Where to go and what to knit this February



Pop along to the Salisbury Arts Centre today to see the UK Hyperbolic Crochet Coral Reef in its final form. This large-scale artwork consists of thousands of crocheted corals, created by crafty people across the globe out of recycled materials. It has visited several UK venues and has been added to at each stop. Visit between 3pm-5pm to snack on tea and cakes and marvel at the finished display.

Visit [www.salisburyartscentre.co.uk](http://www.salisburyartscentre.co.uk) for more.



If you're an intermediate knitter looking to move forward with your skills, why not attend the 'Cables and Textures, Cushions and Afghans' workshop being hosted at Fabrication in Leeds. Tutor Audrey Wilson will teach you how to cable and use texture in your work and at the end of the workshop you can select a simple cushion or afghan pattern to work on at home. All you need to bring is 4mm needles and the class costs £35. Call **0113 243 9140** or visit [www.fabrication.co.uk](http://www.fabrication.co.uk) for more information.



Our West Country readers can join LK designer Anniken Allis at Spin a Yarn in Bovey Tracey, Devon to learn how to knit lace. Anniken will teach you how to read charts, work increases, decreases and shaping as well as how to add beads using a crochet hook. You'll practice on several swatches and will go home with the necessary skills to work simple lace garments, shawls and accessories. It costs £45, which includes a home-cooked lunch and teatime treats. Call **01626 836203** or visit [www.spinayarndevon.co.uk](http://www.spinayarndevon.co.uk) to book.



Unravel, Farnham Maltings' festival of knitting, handspun yarns talks, workshops and more, returns for a third year between the 26th-27th of February. In association with Farnham's Interknit Café, it features a knitting surgery, a 'Best in Show' prize and even a wooller fashion show with emerging and established designers. Day tickets cost £6, call **01252 745444** or visit [www.farnhammaltings.com](http://www.farnhammaltings.com)



If you're looking to knit a project in a certain colour but can't find the exact yarn you're after, why not dye your own? Visit Get Knitted in Bristol to learn how, under the expert tuition of Rosee Woodland. You'll spend the day looking at the different effects that can be achieved with simple techniques and will hand-paint your own yarns to take home. Beginners are very welcome and the workshop costs £45. Call **0117 300 5211** visit [www.getknitted.com](http://www.getknitted.com) to book.



Stay at the Westcliffe Hotel in Blackpool between the 25th-27th February and join Debbie Tomkies of DT Craft & Design for the ultimate stash-busting experience. Using fun, simple crochet techniques you'll learn how to make small shapes that can then be put together to create fabulously textured, colourful accessories and garments. You'll also learn how to use simple templates to make bags, a sleeveless jacket and more. The weekend costs £130 which includes accommodation, meals and workshops. Call **01253 352943** or visit [www.westcliffe-knitting.co.uk](http://www.westcliffe-knitting.co.uk)



## THERE'S A NEW HOLSTER IN TOWN...



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## Cute and cosy

This snood (left) and hat (right) are two of 20 quick makes designed by Jenny Watson in the latest Mirasol collection Designer Mini Knits. The Mirasol Project works to support yarn producing communities in Peru. This pattern book includes designs for hats, mitts, scarves, cardies and homewares, each made using Mirasol yarns. To find out more about all the yarns on offer and for stockist information call **01535 664222** or visit **www.designeryarns.uk.com**

# inspiration station

Knitty news and views from all over the world

For excellent customer service and a range

of gorgeous yarns, needles and patterns,

visit family-run business [www.meadowyarn.co.uk](http://www.meadowyarn.co.uk)

## 3 of the best... cushion patterns

Nothing's better than settling down with your loved ones on the sofa for a movie evening. Make it all the more cosy by whipping up one of these fab cushions. This adorable crocheted bear cushion cover is by LK designer Val Pierce and is made using a 3mm hook and silky cotton. We love this wintry offering from Martin Storey which features sweet reindeers and hearts and is inspired by Nordic knitting. Our final choice is by Suzie Blackman and can be downloaded for free. It's the perfect project for using up those odds and ends of yarn.



Teddy Bear Cushion Cover,  
£2.99, **01252 377677**,  
[www.art-of-craft.co.uk](http://www.art-of-craft.co.uk)

Reindeer Cushion, from Nordic  
Knits by Martin Storey (Rowan),  
£15.99, **01548 831911**,  
[www.hulucrafts.co.uk](http://www.hulucrafts.co.uk)



Stash-buster Cushion,  
free to download,  
[www.itsastitchup.co.uk](http://www.itsastitchup.co.uk)



## Have you tried...

### ...KNITTING FASTER?

We're not encouraging you to be reckless but if you've ever seen videos of speed knitters and fancy giving it a try, here are five top tips:

- 1 Try to keep your right hand on the needle and use your index finger to lift the yarn over the end of the needle. Use your little or ring finger to tension the yarn.
- 2 Relax! Tensing your muscles will make it harder to knit and give you achey hands and wrists.
- 3 Try the continental method. Some of the fastest knitters hold the yarn in their left hand and flick the yarn over the tip of the LH needle.
- 4 Use small movements. Keep the stitches near the ends of the needles and only insert the very tip of the RH needle into the stitch. This saves time when knitting.
- 5 Use lightweight needles with a long, sharp tip. They're easier to wield and will go into the stitches more smoothly.





## TIP OF THE MONTH



To keep your place on complicated patterns, use small post it notes – you can scribble notes on them at the same time.

Ann Graham, Tyne and Wear

Send your tips along with your name, address and a recent photo to [elaine.bennett@aceville.co.uk](mailto:elaine.bennett@aceville.co.uk) – you'll receive a £10 voucher to spend at Deramores if it's printed. Visit [www.deramores.com](http://www.deramores.com) to see their fab range or call 0845 519 4573.

# deramores.com

## Knitting all over the world

These are the members of a fantastic knitting group in Sani, Malawi, which was started with the help of Let's Knit Local. The group is composed of volunteers working with sick people in their own remote villages. These volunteers are subsistence farmers and are often unwell themselves. The group meets once a month to learn to knit, which in turn allows them to raise money to improve their diet for themselves and their children. To learn how to set up your own knitting group with the help of Let's Knit, turn to page 80.



## Spring in your step

Learn something new this spring by attending a felting workshop taught by an expert from Finland. As part of Wonderwool Wales' programme of classes you can choose from six educational workshops. If you'd like some new homewares to spruce up your lounge, learn how to make a felted bowl, a piece of textile wall art or a contemporary rug. Alternatively, attend a class to learn how to make a seamless bag or a textual scarf. Further details of the felting courses, including costs, will be available shortly by visiting [www.wonderwoolwales.co.uk](http://www.wonderwoolwales.co.uk) or call Olwen on 01873 821205 for more information.



GOING UP>>

Showing off your skills

It's still really cold

<<GOING DOWN

Dear Let's Knit

STAR LETTER



### WRITE AND WIN!

Our star letter this month wins

**ABAKHAN**  
FABRICS, HOBBY & HOME

five skeins of Debbie Bliss Andes. This luxurious yarn is made from 65% baby alpaca and 35% mulberry silk and comes in 16 shades. This prize, worth just under £30, is courtesy of Abakhan Fabrics, Hobby & Home, [www.abakhan.co.uk](http://www.abakhan.co.uk)



Send letters to Let's Knit, 1 Phoenix Court, Hawkins Road, Colchester, Essex, CO2 8JY or email [elaine.bennett@aceville.co.uk](mailto:elaine.bennett@aceville.co.uk)

As soon as I saw Miriam, the striped cardigan in issue 27, I knew I was going to make it. I have always wanted a garment like this since my art student days in the late sixties and early seventies. I had such fun knitting it. My selected balls of coloured yarn became my paint palette and at the end of every first or second row I chose a colour for balance, composition and impact. What an excellent way to use up all your odds and ends of wool and make a stunning jumper. I think that this is a pattern I shall return to in years to come, but the colours will change according to my mood and the contents of my stash!

Sue Milburn, Cranbrook

I starting knitting last May and began with ye old faithful scarf. I moved on to gifts for friends as I found more confidence and Let's Knit became a monthly purchase as inspiration and guidance. I resolved to make myself a garment and I decided on Drift (issue 30) and I've just finished it. No one else seems to understand how proud I am that not only did I complete it but I didn't make any mistakes. It may have taken months but I've done it! Thank you Let's Knit for being the inspiration for this creation.

Niki Hobson, Chesterfield



I've just finished my Eugenia cape from issue 36. I am new to making bobbles and cables and this was the first time I'd done a picot edge. Once I'd got the hang of the increases it was fun to knit. I also made the matching Rosetta hat as well. This is a picture of the finished result on my daughter Claire – she loves it.

June Covey, via email



I enjoy reading Let's Knit each month and love looking through the patterns and then reading the articles. In the November issue I saw the competition to win a winter accessories knitting kit and decided to enter my name. I won and recently received one of the kits and was delighted with the contents. I'm shortly going into hospital for an operation and this kit will be ideal for me to do whilst I am recovering – many, many thanks.

Helen Sugg, High Wycombe

My mother and I have recently taken up knitting again after several years and we've both made the hot water bottle covers from issue 36. This is my attempt at Demetrius. I wanted to support the British wool industry and get super insulation, ideally by using wool from an endangered sheep breed. I used affordable, un-dyed, chunky pure wool from Teeswater Wools and 5mm needles. Thank you for the patterns and the inspiration!

Loretta Hurley, Cambridgeshire





## take three...

## ...seriously chunky yarns

Quick to knit and super snuggly, these yarns are big, bold and beautiful. All three are blends of natural and manmade fibres to add a lightness to knitted fabrics, and all are great value.



Rico Fashion Super Chunky, 60% wool, 40% acrylic, £5.75 per 100g (90m) ball, 01793 855535, [www.crafty-yarn.co.uk](http://www.crafty-yarn.co.uk)



Gedifra Benevito, 50% new wool, 40% acrylic, 10% alpaca, £3.95 per 50g (30m) ball, 01494 862111, [www.rainbowsilks.co.uk](http://www.rainbowsilks.co.uk)



Wendy Viva, 70% acrylic, 20% wool, 10% nylon, £3.95 per 100g (80m) ball, 01749 677548, [www.mandywools.co.uk](http://www.mandywools.co.uk)

## astroknitters

by Janice Botterill,  
illustrated by Julie Anson

**What does your star sign reveal about your knitting?**

### AQUARIUS KNITTER

(January 20th – February 18th)

Aquarians are renowned for their big ideas and enthusiasm for helping others. As an Aquarian you love to try new things and enjoy being in the company of like-minded friends and colleagues.



### You love to knit...

...with the newest, most beautiful yarn. You can spend hours in your LYS, enjoying the social aspect of the regular knitting group and taking regular turns around the store to caress and enjoy the next 'must-have' stock. With your commitment to campaigns and issues, you'll be at the forefront of any charity or group knitting project. You love to support worthy causes and have a knack for bringing all sorts of people together in the name of a good cause.

### UFO

As an Aquarian knitter you may struggle with large, repetitive projects. Novelty and variety give you inspiration and joy. That garter-stitch log cabin quilt, started in enthusiasm in 1998, is now languishing at the bottom of the stash waiting for you to pass it on to a group of fellow knitters who might be inspired to finish it and auction it for a local charity.

### WIP

Aquarian knitters have an appetite for technology and learning new things. You're a regular on Ravelry and blog enthusiastically, hosting links to patterns and techniques from around the world. You join knit-a-longs and write about each of the new skills you've acquired. This month it will be a Fair Isle beret, next month a cabled bag.

### Knitting motto

Never knowingly knitting the same stitch twice...

### Recommended book

'Knitalong: Celebrating the Tradition of Knitting Together' by Larissa Brown and Martin John Brown

### Recommended website

[www.p-hop.co.uk](http://www.p-hop.co.uk) – "pennies per hour of pleasure", fundraising website for Médecins Sans Frontières

## 5 mins with... Purl City Yarns

Charlotte Bacci explains her whirlwind journey to set up her new Manchester-based yarn store

**Everything just fell into place.** The idea for the shop came about on a trip to WoolFest in June last year. The people I was travelling with said, "I thought you were going to open up a wool shop, why don't you do it?" Before I knew it I'd found a premises and had persuaded the bank manager to give me a loan. I managed to rustle up a business plan in less than a week, sorted the finances and then I was ordering stock.



**We opened on October 12th and it's looking really positive.** Sales are building each week and we're getting new people through the door all the time. We've also launched the website and are trading online. We stock Mirasol, Manos del Uruguay, Noro, Fyberspates, Malabrigo and lots more. We also have yarns from several independent dyers. I felt that there was nowhere in central Manchester that sold a good range of quality yarns. There are a lot of traditional wool shops with baby acrylic yarns but there was nowhere to buy Debbie Bliss or Louisa Harding.

**There's always a lot going on here.** We started running classes in our gallery and so far we've had Beginner's Knitting and Make a Stocking, which introduced the basics of sock knitting, working on dpns and Fair Isle too. There are lots more events and courses planned for 2011. One of the girls who works here has organised a spinning group to go with our other knitting groups and she'll be offering classes. We also have a weaving workshop in the pipeline plus ones for various knitting and crochet techniques. The 'trunk' shows we've had have been well attended and people have really enjoyed them so we want to do more of those too.

**We've got so much planned it's all a bit chaotic at times but the girls in the shop are very on the ball and keep me in line.** The people who work here don't just work a till, they're all really keen on knitting, crochet and crafting.

**Visit Purl City Yarns at 62 Port Street, Manchester, go online at [www.purlicityyarns.com](http://www.purlicityyarns.com) or call 0161 425 3864 to find out more!**





# royal purple

Glamorous  
matching  
set

There's lots of interesting techniques to try in Robyn and Lily, this fab purple set from Anniken Allis

**R**obyn and Lily, our luxurious cowl and handwarmers by Anniken Allis, are perfect for practising knitting in the round and using provisional cast-ons. They're knitted in a gorgeous merino and bamboo mix but this project would also be brilliant for using up spare balls of sock yarn from your stash. Don't be intimidated by the number of charts included in this project, all of which are on page 85, as we've written out full instructions for each one in case you find that easier.



## Knit knowledge

### Measurements & sizes

**Robyn:** 52cm circumference x 22cm long

**Lily:** XS/S (M/L)

**Circumference (cm):** 20 (27)

**Length (cm):** 22 (22)

**NOTE:** knitted fabric will stretch to fit a variety of sizes

### Knit kit

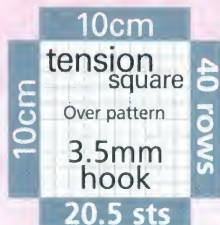
**Yarn:** YarnAddict Bambino

Sock, shade Purple Velvet, one 100g ball

**Needles:** 3.5mm circular, 40cm; 3.5mm double-pointed

**Stitch markers**

**Waste yarn**



### About the Yarn

**YarnAddict Bambino Sock** is hand dyed by LK designer Anniken Allis and is a sumptuous blend of 80% superwash merino and 20% bamboo. This mix gives it a pretty sheen. We recommend washing it by hand.

### Need an Alternative?

**Lang Yarns Jawoll Magic** is a pretty, multi-coloured sock yarn made from 75% pure wool and 25% polyamide. It can be machine washed at 40°C. Choose from 14 shades, including purple hues 46, 53 and 90.

### Special Abbreviations

**sj:** single join – (RS): k edging st tog with edge st/live st from centre panel

**RCO:** Russian Cast Off – (RS): k2, sl both sts back onto LH needle, k2tog, \* k1, slip both sts back onto LH needle, k2tog, rep from \*

For abbreviations see page 86

## ROBYN PATTERN Cowl

Using 3.5mm circular, needle cast on 108 sts

☐ Rnds 1-20: work Chart A six times across first 54 sts [see below for written instructions for Chart], work Chart B six times across second 54 sts [see below for written instructions for Chart]  
☐ Rep last 20 rnds three times or until cowl meas desired length, allowing for edging, leave sts on needle

## Chart A written instructions

**NOTE:** rep each set of instructions six times across first 54 sts

☐ Rnd 1 (RS): p1, k4, k2tog, k1, yrn, p1  
☐ Rnd 2 and all even numbered rnds: p1, k7, p1  
☐ Rnd 3: p1, k3, k2tog, k1, yfwd, k1, p1  
☐ Rnd 5: p1, k2, k2tog, k1, yfwd, k2, p1

☐ Rnd 7: p1, k1, k2tog, k1, yfwd, k3, p1  
☐ Rnd 9: p1, k2tog, k1, yfwd, k4, p1  
☐ Rnd 11: p1, yon, k1, ssk, k4, p1  
☐ Rnd 13: p1, k1, yfwd, k1, ssk, k3, p1  
☐ Rnd 15: p1, k2, yfwd, k1, ssk, k2, p1  
☐ Rnd 17: p1, k3, yfwd, k1, ssk, k1, p1  
☐ Rnd 19: p1, k4, yfwd, k1, ssk, p1  
☐ Rnd 20: p1, k1, p1

instructions six times across second 54 sts

☐ Rnd 1 (RS): p1, yon, k1, ssk, k4, p1  
☐ Rnd 2 and all even numbered rnds: p1, k7, p1  
☐ Rnd 3: p1, k1, yfwd, k1, ssk, k3, p1  
☐ Rnd 5: p1, k2, yfwd, k1, ssk, k2, p1  
☐ Rnd 7: p1, k3, yfwd, k1, ssk, k1, p1  
☐ Rnd 9: p1, k4, yfwd, k1, ssk, p1  
☐ Rnd 11: p1, k4, k2tog, k1, yrn, p1  
☐ Rnd 13: p1, k3, k2tog, k1, yfwd, k1, p1  
☐ Rnd 15: p1, k2, k2tog, k1,

## Chart B written instructions

**NOTE:** rep each set of

## WHY I CHOSE THIS PATTERN FOR THE COVER



"This elegant cowl and handwarmer set will draw no end of admiring looks and needs only one skein of luxury sock yarn to make it"

LK EDITOR SARAH NEAL



yfwd, k2, p1

□ Rnd 17: p1, k1, k2tog, k1,

yfwd, k3, p1

□ Rnd 19: p1, k2tog, k1,

yfwd, k4, p1

□ Rnd 20: p1, k7, p1

## Edging

Using two 3.5mm dpns cast on nine sts using any provisional cast on method (see Knit wise panel overleaf)

Commence Edging chart, attaching edging to live sts on cowl [see below for written instructions for Chart]

□ Rep Edging chart 12 times in all

□ Undo provisional cast on and place sts on a needle.

Graft ends of edging tog with RS facing (see p89 for Kitchener stitch method)

## Edging chart written instructions

□ Row 1 (RS): sl 1 wyif, k1, yfwd, k2tog, k1, yfwd, k2tog, yfwd, k1, sj

□ Row 2 (WS): sl 1, k2tog, yfwd, k1, p4, k2

□ Row 3: sl 1 wyif, k1, yfwd, k2tog, k1, yfwd, k1, k2tog, yfwd, k1, sj

□ Row 4: sl 1, k2tog, yfwd, k1, p5, k2

□ Row 5: sl 1 wyif, k1, yfwd, k2tog, k1, yfwd, k2, k2tog, yfwd, k1, sj

□ Row 6: sl 1, k2tog, yfwd, k1, p6, k2

□ Row 7: sl 1 wyif, k1, yfwd, k2tog, k1, yfwd, k3, k2tog, yfwd, k1, sj

□ Row 8: sl 1, k2tog, yfwd, k1, p7, k2

□ Row 9: RCO four times, k2 including st used to cast off, yfwd, k2tog, k1, yfwd, k2tog, yfwd, k1, sj

□ Row 10: sl 1, k2tog, yfwd, k1, p4, k2

□ Row 11: sl 1 wyif, k1, yfwd, k2tog, k1, yfwd, k1, k2tog, yfwd, k1, sj

□ Row 12: sl 1, k2tog, yfwd, k1, p5, k2

□ Row 13: sl 1 wyif, k1, yfwd, k2tog, k1, yfwd, k2, k2tog, yfwd, k1, sj

□ Row 14: sl 1, k2tog, yfwd, k1, p6, k2

□ Row 15: sl 1 wyif, k1,

yfwd, k2tog, k1, yfwd, k3,

k2tog, yfwd, k1, sj

□ Row 16: sl 1, k2tog, yfwd, k1, p7, k2

□ Row 17: RCO four times, k5 including st used to cast off, k2tog, yfwd, k1, sj

□ Row 18: sl 1, k2tog, yfwd, k1, p3, k2

□ Rep last 18 rows 12 times in all

## To make up

Weave in all loose ends. Soak work in lukewarm water.

Squeeze out excess water.

Lay on a flat surface and stretch out to size and pin in place. Pin out each point on the edging. Leave to dry.

Unpin when dry

## LILY PATTERN Handwarmers

Using 3.5mm dpns cast on 42 (56) sts using any provisional cast on method

□ Rnds 1-16: work Chart A 3 (4) times across first 21 (28 sts), work Chart B 3 (4) times across second 21 (28) sts

[see below for written instructions for Charts]

□ Rep last 16 rnds once more

□ Rnds 33-48: work Chart C 3 (4) times, then Chart D 3 (4) times on each rnd [see below for written instructions for Charts]. 48 (64) sts

□ Next rnd: working from Charts A and B work eight sts in patt, k next six sts in waste yarn, sl these six sts back to LH needle and work again in patt, work to end of rnd

□ Next rnd: (k6, p2tog) to end. 42 (56) sts

□ Work from Charts A and B as before, beg Rnd 3, until work meas desired length

□ Cast off

## Chart A written instructions

□ Rnd 1 (RS): k3, k2tog, »

See page 85 for charts

exclusive to LK!

robyn

lily

Jacket, £24.99, TK Maxx



k1, yrn, p1

☐ Rnd 2 and all even-numbered rnds: k6, p1

☐ Rnd 3: k2, k2tog, k1, yfwd, k1, p1

☐ Rnd 5: k1, k2tog, k1, yfwd, k2, p1

☐ Rnd 7: k2tog, k1, yfwd, k3, p1

☐ Rnd 9: yfwd, k1, ssk, k3, p1

☐ Rnd 11: k1, yfwd, k1, ssk, k2, p1

☐ Rnd 13: k2, yfwd, k1, ssk, k1, p1

☐ Rnd 15: k3, yfwd, k1, ssk, p1

☐ Rnd 16: k6, p1

## Chart B written instructions

☐ Rnd 1 (RS): yfwd, k1, ssk, k3, p1

☐ Rnd 2 and all even-numbered rnds: k6, p1

☐ Rnd 3: k1, yfwd, k1, ssk,

k2, p1

☐ Rnd 5: k2, yfwd, k1, ssk, k1, p1

☐ Rnd 7: k3, yfwd, k1, ssk, p1

☐ Rnd 9: k3, k2tog, k1, yrn, p1

☐ Rnd 11: k2, k2tog, k1, yfwd, k1, p1

☐ Rnd 13: k1, k2tog, k1, yfwd, k2, p1

☐ Rnd 15: k2tog, k1, yfwd, k3, p1

☐ Rnd 16: k6, p1

## Chart C written instructions

☐ Rnd 1 (RS): k3, k2tog, k1, yrn, p1, m1

☐ Rnd 2 and all even-numbered rnds: k6, p2

☐ Rnd 3: k2, k2tog, k1, yfwd, k1, p2

☐ Rnd 5: k1, k2tog, k1, yfwd, k2, p2

☐ Rnd 7: k2tog, k1, yfwd, k3, p2

☐ Rnd 9: yfwd, k1, ssk, k3, p2

☐ Rnd 11: k1, yfwd, k1, ssk, k2, p2

☐ Rnd 13: k2, yfwd, k1, ssk, k1, p2

☐ Rnd 15: k3, yfwd, k1, ssk, p2

☐ Rnd 16: k6, p2

## Chart D written instructions

☐ Rnd 1 (RS): yfwd, k1, ssk, k3, p1, m1

☐ Rnd 2 and all even-

numbered rnds: k6, p2

☐ Rnd 3: k1, yfwd, k1, ssk, k2, p2

☐ Rnd 5: k2, yfwd, k1, ssk, k1, p2

☐ Rnd 7: k3, yfwd, k1, ssk, p2

☐ Rnd 9: k3, k2tog, k1, yrn, p2

☐ Rnd 11: k2, k2tog, k1, yfwd, k1, p2

☐ Rnd 13: k1, k2tog, k1, yfwd, k2, p2

☐ Rnd 15: k2tog, k1, yfwd, k3, p2

☐ Rnd 16: k6, p2

## Thumb

☐ Undo waste yarn and place six sts from top and bottom on 2 (3) needles, attach yarn and k six sts, pick up 2 (3) sts in gap, k six sts, pick up 2 (3) sts in gap. 16 (18) sts

Join to work in the rnd

☐ Work six rnds in st st

☐ Work three rnds in garter st, beg with a p rnd

☐ Cast off

## Edging

Using two 3.5mm dpns, cast on nine sts using any provisional cast on method

☐ Commence Edging chart, attaching edging to live sts on handwarmers [see written instructions for Chart below]

☐ Rep Edging Chart 6 (8) times in all

☐ Undo provisional cast on and place sts on a needle, graft ends of edging tog with RS facing (see page 89)

## Edging chart

☐ Row 1 (RS): sl 1 wyif, k1, yfwd, k2tog, k1 yfwd, k2tog, yfwd, k1, sj

☐ Rows 2 and 8 (WS): sl 1, k2tog, yfwd, k1, p4, k2

☐ Row 3 and 9: sl 1 wyif, k1, yfwd, k2tog, k1, yfwd, k1, k2tog, yfwd, k1, sj

☐ Rows 4 and 10

(WS): sl 1, k2tog, yfwd, k1, p5, k2

☐ Rows 5 and 11: sl 1 wyif, k1, yfwd, k2tog, k1, yfwd, k2, k2tog, yfwd, k1, sj

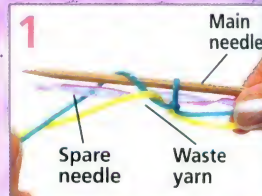
☐ Row 6 (WS): sl 1, k2tog, yfwd, k1, p6, k2

## knit wise

### Stitch perfect

When working the edging on the cowl, you are asked to use a provisional cast on method. Also known as an open cast on, this type of cast on is removed whilst the knitting is in progress or as part of a finishing step. We recommend using waste yarn in a contrasting colour to make the removal process easier. Choose a strong, smooth yarn that is firmly twisted to minimize tangles and help aid the process. Don't use mohair or other similarly fuzzy yarns as these may be difficult to remove and leave noticeable bits of fluff on your project.

**Step 1:** Use a spare needle and one of your main needles. Holding two needles parallel make a slip knot over both ends, pull tight. Hold a length of waste yarn underneath the working yarn. \* Move the working yarn in front of the waste yarn, wrap it underneath then bring it over the needles from front to back. \*



**Step 2:** Rep from \* to \* until you have cast on the desired number of stitches. You should have the same number of stitches on the needle as the wraps around the waste yarn.

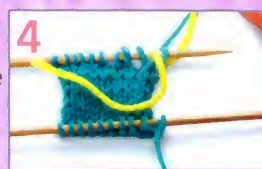


**Step 3:** Keeping the two cast on needles in place, knit the first row. Now remove one or both of the cast on needles and begin to knit. After a few rows, remove the last needle.

The cast on stitches will remain larger than the other stitches. Keep knitting until you have finished the necessary section.



**Step 4:** To pick up the cast on stitches, insert your needle through the loops and remove the waste yarn. Give the needle a few gentle tugs to even out the stitches then begin knitting in the opposite direction.



- ☐ Row 7: RCO three times, k2 including st used to cast off, yfwd, k2tog, k1, yfwd, k2tog, yfwd, k1, sj
- ☐ Row 12: sl 1, k2tog, yfwd, k1, p6, k2
- ☐ Row 13: RCO three times, k5 including st used to cast off, k2tog, yfwd, k1, sj
- ☐ Row 14: sl 1, k2tog, yfwd, k1, p5
- ☐ Rep these 14 rows 6 (8) times in all

## To make up

Follow making up instructions for Robyn

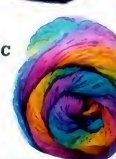
Turn to page 85 for charts

## let's shop!

**YarnAddict Bambino**  
Sock costs £11 per 100g (400m) skein from YarnAddict, [www.yarnaddict.co.uk](http://www.yarnaddict.co.uk)



**Lang Yarns Jawoll Magic**  
costs £6.95 per 100g (400m) ball from Brownberry Yarns, 01257 471349, [www.brownberryyarns.co.uk](http://www.brownberryyarns.co.uk)





Claire Thomas:

# Purbs of wisdom

## Gratification, thy name is knit

I have dire and dreadful news to report. My own knitting inclinations have been used against me. I derive a great deal of secret amusement from my five year old's assertive way of talking. There's something inherently hilarious about being told off by someone in Dr Who pyjamas with a grubby, beloved toy piglet hanging from their hand. I was thinking this last Saturday morning when he fixed me with a beady-eyed glare and said, "Mummy, I don't think you're listening to me."

I raised myself up off the sofa to retrieve a cable needle that had rolled under my left bum cheek. "Yes, my cherub?" He waved the piglet in my direction. "Pigley's cold, Mummy. Today I would like you to make him a hat... and a coat... and a scarf, please." My son does not want much, clearly. After some negotiating, I agreed to make the required garments, mainly on the grounds that Pigley is about six inches tall and so, even knitting at a snail's pace, I knew they wouldn't take me long. I took measurements, tucked Pigley into the crook of my arm for further reference, and began. It only took an hour or so to produce a ribbed beanie, a garter stitch scarf and a kimono style coat, all in a very pretty shade of sky blue perfect for Pigley's pastel pink complexion. My son was delighted, but typically, expressed it with great restraint, simply saying, "And now a pair of socks, please, Mummy." I sighed, and got back to work.

The thing is, knitting for Pigley was really very satisfying. It's certainly the only time I've ever been able to complete three garments in such a short space of time. And it's got me started on knitting little things – baby mittens, iPod cosies, wrist warmers, squares for baby blankets, pants for the goldfish. (OK, I made that one up. Our goldfish is a nudist.) In all seriousness, I am a completist. It's all about the finishing for me. And the quicker I can do it, the better. I love the feeling of an

hour's work resulting in something tiny but perfect, like a snowflake. And it got me thinking, surely I couldn't be the only one to enjoy the delights of knitting tiny projects?

So, in the spirit of research, I turned to the internet. And, as I expected, I'm not the only one. There's a phrase for it. It's called IGK, which stands for Instant Gratification Knitting. And in its name, knitters everywhere are churning out projects that would be a good fit on a Lilliputian's chihuahua. But of course, tiny projects aren't the only way to achieve gratification, as everybody who has ever eyeballed a pair of 20mm needles knows. With these needles, thinks the knitter, ever hopeful, nose pressed against the yarn shop window, I could become the Jensen

Button of fibrecraft, whipping out a cardigan in less time than it takes to boil the kettle. And before you know it, there you are tumbling out of the shop doorway with the needles, carrier bags bulging with Rowan Big Wool and a debit card red hot from the machine. But don't despair. You'll be binding off a poncho before the bus home reaches your stop.

Claire Thomas is a freelance journalist and founder of Stitch 'n' Bitch group Knit Pickers.



## inspiration station



### Bowled over

If you find your yarn rolling off the sofa and across the floor whilst knitting, you need one of these hand-thrown yarn bowls from Little Wren Pottery in Sunderland. Each bowl features a specially-designed 'curl' that you can thread your yarn through and is finished with a gorgeous glaze. Company owner Victoria Baker says, 'Most of my pieces have a rustic feel to them which I think reflects the process of making pottery.' We've got two bowls to give away on page 79 or for more information visit [www.littlewrenpottery.co.uk](http://www.littlewrenpottery.co.uk)



### Spin me right round

If our deputy editor Adrienne Chandler's spinning adventure on page 43 has inspired you to take up this craft, Cornish Wools has a range of accessories to get you started. Beginners will love this inexpensive Ashford drop spindle (below) which gives the novice more control over their spinning compared to a wheel. It costs just £5.50. Those with a little more experience wishing to purchase their own equipment will adore this Ashford traditional spinning wheel (above) which is made of silver beech and is versatile enough to spin a wide variety of yarns. It costs £280. Call Cornish Wools on 01736 711288 or visit [www.cornishwools.co.uk](http://www.cornishwools.co.uk)







## 5 reasons to... ...fall in love with knitting

### 1 So many fibres

Alpaca, angora, bamboo, camel, cashmere, cotton, silk, not to mention wonderful wool... the list is endless.

### 2 Join the community

There are thousands of knitters across the country sharing their passion for this fabulous hobby. Find a Let's Knit Local Group near you or set up your own – turn to p80 to learn more.

### 3 Time well spent

Learning a new skill is a great way to spend your evenings. By the time you go to bed you'll have plenty to show for it and will have a good answer when you ask yourself "what did I do today?"

### 4 Just like magic

Watching a simple ball of yarn be transformed into knitted fabric never gets old, regardless of whether it's your first scarf or your tenth heirloom shawl!

### 5 Truly special yarns

Our Mae shawl (right) is knitted in Fiberspates Sparkle Sock yarn containing 2% sterling silver. Check it out on p58.



## KNITTED FROM THE HEART

This Sweetheart Sweater is perfect for Valentine's Day and comes from Debbie Stoller's latest book *Stitch 'n' Bitch Superstar Knitting*. Read more on p77



Cafe Knit now stocks Lion Brand Yarn from America.

Call 020 8863 1301 or visit [www.cafeknit.com](http://www.cafeknit.com) for more

### wise buys

### Magic mix

Wendy Serenity Super Chunky is an interesting blend of 10% wool, 20% alpaca and 70% acrylic. This combination makes it very soft and light but also really affordable. It knits up fast on 10mm needles and comes in 12 calm shades, including 1708, this beautiful Teal shade. A 100g (80m) ball costs £3.85 from The Knitting Shop, 020 7226 0800, [www.knittingwooland yarnshop.co.uk](http://www.knittingwooland yarnshop.co.uk)



### Baby boom

If you know someone with a little one on the way then head along to Modern Knitting. The website is a great source of soft, machine washable yarns in a variety of weights that are great for baby knitting. Browse through the designs ranging from projects for tiny newborns through to makes for rough-and-tumble tots, and don't miss the page listing a wide selection of beautiful shawl and blanket patterns. Go online at [www.modernknitting.co.uk](http://www.modernknitting.co.uk) and choose your favourite!



Did you know?

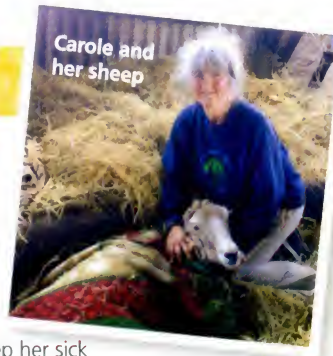
Countryside magazine is campaigning to get British wool showcased at the London 2012 Olympics – sign the petition at [www.countrysideonline.co.uk](http://www.countrysideonline.co.uk)



## CHARITY OF THE MONTH

### Woolly Park Farm Blanket Appeal

Run by Carole Webb, The Sanctuary at Woolly Park Farm in Wolverton, Warwickshire provides a home for sick and rescued animals including 500 sheep, plus pigs, cockerels, turkeys, cats and more. Previously funded by donations, the farm has recently been supported by registered charity Friends of the Animals ([www.friendsoftheanimals.co.uk](http://www.friendsoftheanimals.co.uk)). With this year's harsh winter, Carole needs knitted blankets or squares to sew into blankets, to keep her sick animals warm and she needs your help. Squares and finished blankets can be sent to Carole's friend Lisa Mancell at 16 Doulton Drive, Porthill, Newcastle, Staffordshire, ST5 8SE.



### For the love of wool

With yarns available in a vast selection of weights and colours, Jamieson & Smith loves showing off Shetland wool in all its glory. Ranging from fine 1ply cobweb weight for lace knitting to cosy Soft Spun Aran for traditional sweaters, each yarn comes in a wide choice of colours from subtle, pastel tones to vibrant rainbow shades. The 2ply Jumper weight is similar to a typical 4ply and is perfect for Fair Isle projects and even comes in handy 25g balls. The company also sells knitting patterns, kits and ready-knitted items. For further information call 01595 693579 or go online at [www.shetlandwoolbrokers.co.uk](http://www.shetlandwoolbrokers.co.uk)



K and J Crafts has rebranded as Cari Crafts. Visit

[www.caricrafts.co.uk](http://www.caricrafts.co.uk) for your knitting and crafting supplies

### Starting out

New yarn store Spun is making waves on the Huddersfield knitting scene selling luxury yarn brands and sharing skills in regular crafting workshops. "The planning stage was really scary," says owner Lydia Taylor. "I was worried that no-one would turn up, then I opened and people were really positive. I'd always liked the great yarns you see advertised but was never able to get them locally, so I decided I'd try



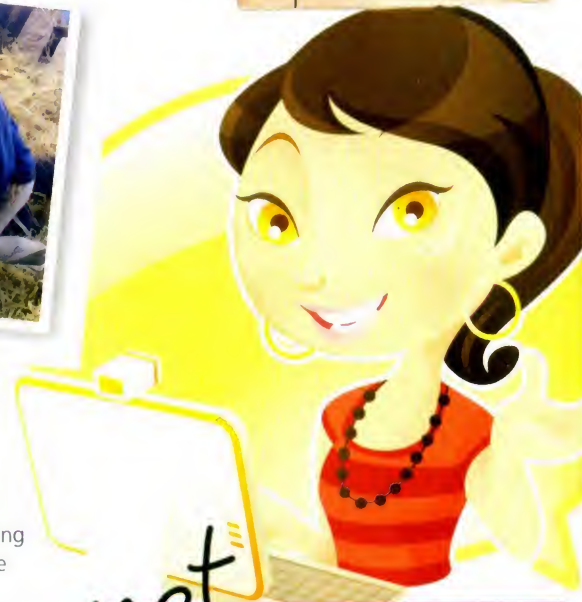
and bring more interesting yarns to Huddersfield." Regular classes are held at the shop teaching a wide range of techniques from rag-rug making to spinning, dyeing, knitting and crochet.

"I wanted my shop to have space for workshops and hope to have something going on twice a week. For me it's all about passing on the traditional skills and getting more people crafting." For more details about the latest classes and goings on, visit [www.spunshop.co.uk](http://www.spunshop.co.uk), call 01484 453825 or pop in to see for yourself on the 2nd floor, Byram Arcade, Huddersfield.



### New arrival!

The knitting community in Newcastle, Staffordshire have been revelling in the launch of a brand new local craftstore! Crafty Wool is a haven of creativity stocking supplies for a range of hobbies including knitting, crochet, jewellery-making, sewing and more. With plenty of your favourite brands on offer such as Artesano, Cygnet, King Cole, Gutermann, DMC and many more, there's bound to be something that catches your eye. The shop will also deliver to elderly and housebound customers within a six to eight mile radius - how's that for service! Head along to 18 High Street or visit [www.thecraftywool.co.uk](http://www.thecraftywool.co.uk) to find out more.



## net Natter

Our Let's Knit forum chatterers will be keeping warm this season in their crafted creations. Take a look at these three super scarves.

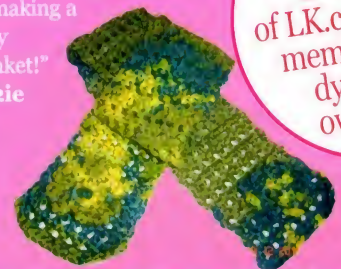
"This is for my mum, I just need to find some pretty wooden buttons for the scarf pockets" Prettypale



"This is the chunky cabled scarf I've made for my daughter. The design's my own, I think I may make

myself one when I get the chance" Buzyknitting

"I've finished it, naughty really as I'm supposed to be making a baby blanket!" Suzie



Just 21% of LK.co.uk for members have dyed their own yarn

### LK question of the month

Do you crochet as well as knit?

Have your say at [www.letsknit.co.uk](http://www.letsknit.co.uk) and find out the answer next month!



# touch of vintage

exclusive  
to LK!

Combine vintage styling and a vibrant shade with Christie by Pat Menchini

Our lovely Christie top by Pat Menchini features a deep welt, fitted bodice and v-neck, all brilliant for showing off your curves. It's knitted in new King Cole Gentle Touch which is really soft and easy to care for. This yarn also has a marvellous stretch, meaning Christie is wonderful for all sizes and shapes. If green isn't your bag, take your pick from 13 other solid shades to find a look that's truly you.

## knit knowledge

### Measurements & sizes

<b>To fit bust (cm):</b>	81	(86, 91, 97, 102, 107, 112)
<b>Actual bust (cm):</b>	73	(78, 84, 89, 95, 100, 106)
<b>Length from shoulder (cm):</b>	59	(60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65)
<b>Sleeve length (cm):</b>	33	(33, 33, 33, 34, 34, 34)

### Knit kit

**Yarn:** King Cole Gentle Touch DK, shade 975 Citrus, 4 (4, 5, 5, 5, 5, 6) 100g balls  
**Needles:** 3.25mm, 4mm  
**Cable needle**  
**Stitch holder**



### About the Yarn

King Cole recently won the Best Budget Yarns category in the LK Awards 2010 and with yarns such as **Gentle Touch DK** it's easy to see why. Made of 100% acrylic, it is available in 14 solid colours and is very soft to the touch. It's also machine washable, making it practical too.

### Need an Alternative?

If you like the feel of wool in your garment, try **Stylecraft Life DK** which contains 25% wool and 75% acrylic. It comes in over 40 colours including some fab tweed and marled options. Shade 311 Fern is a similar green to the featured yarn.

### Special Abbreviations

**C6F:** slip next three sts on cn and leave at front of work, k3, k3 from cn  
**C6B:** slip next three sts on cn and leave at back of work, k3, k3 from cn

For abbreviations see page 86

## Cable panel

**NOTE:** this is worked over 15 sts

- ☐ Row 1: p3, k9, p3
  - ☐ Row 2: k3, p9, k3
  - ☐ Row 3: p3, C6F, k3, p3
  - ☐ Row 4: k3, p9, k3
  - ☐ Rows 5-6: as Rows 1-2
  - ☐ Row 7: p3, k3, C6B, p3
  - ☐ Row 8: k3, p9, k3
- These eight rows form Cable panel

## CHRISTIE PATTERN Back

Using 3.25mm needles cast on 85 (91, 97, 103, 109, 115,

121) sts

☐ Row 1 (RS): k2, (p1, k1) to last st, k1

☐ Row 2: k1, (p1, k1) to end

**NOTE:** these two rows form rib

☐ Rep these two rows until work meas 17cm, ending after a WS row

Change to 4mm needles and st st with Cable panels

☐ Row 1: k10 (11, 13, 14, 16, 17, 18), \* work Row 1 of Cable panel, k10 (12, 13, 15, 16, 18, 20) \*, work from \* to \* once more, work Row 1 of

Cable panel, k10 (11, 13, 14, 16, 17, 18)

☐ Row 2: p10 (11, 13, 14, 16, 17, 18), \* work Row 2 of Cable panel, p10 (12, 13, 15, 16, 18, 20) \*, work from \* to \* once more, work Row 2 of Cable panel, p to end

☐ Rows 3-8: rep Rows 1-2 three times but working Rows 3-8 of Cable panel

**NOTE:** these eight rows form patt

## WORK SHAPING

☐ Inc row: k to within one st



"You'll want to make more than one of these! Try a zingy colour for after work or add a leather belt and a smart, more subtle shade for the office"

LK DESIGNER PAT MENCHINI





## knit wise

### Get thrifty

For this make you'll need a stitch holder, but if you don't have one, there are plenty of other thrifty options! Here are a few of our favourite improvised stitch holder options: spare yarn, a paperclip, double pointed needle with elastic bands either end, a safety pin, a twist-tie... the list is endless!

of first panel, m1, k1, work 15 sts of Cable panel, work across row until 15 sts of last panel have been worked, k1, m1, k to end

☐ Work seven rows straight, incorporating incs into patt

☐ Rep last eight rows until there are 99 (105, 111, 117, 123, 129, 135) sts ending with an inc row \*\*

☐ Work 19 rows straight, ending after Row 4 of Cable panel

### SHAPE ARMHOLES

☐ Cast off 5 (6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11) sts loosely at beg of next two rows

☐ Dec one st each end of next five rows, then on foll three alt rows. 73 (77, 81, 85, 89, 93, 97) sts

☐ Cont straight until Back meas 17 (18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23) cm from beg of armhole shaping, ending after a WS row

### SHAPE SHOULDERS

☐ Cast off 7 (7, 7, 8, 8, 9, 9) sts loosely at beg of next four rows, then 6 (7, 8, 8, 9, 8, 10) sts at beg of next two rows

☐ Cast off rem 33 (35, 37, 37, 39, 41, 41) sts

### Front

☐ Work as for Back to \*\*

### DIVIDE FOR V-NECK

**NOTE:** centre panel will form neck border

☐ Next row (WS): work across 54 (57, 60, 63, 66, 69, 72) sts, k3 for edge of neckband, turn

Cont on this group of 57 (60, 63, 66, 69, 72, 75) sts for right half of Front, leave rem sts on st holder

☐ Next row: k3, C6F, k3, p3, work to end

☐ Next row: work to last

three sts, k3

Keeping k3 for edge of neckband correct, work front slope shaping as folls:

☐ Dec row: work 15 sts, k1, k2tog tbl, work to end

☐ Work five rows straight

☐ Rep last six rows until 54 (57, 60, 63, 66, 69, 72) sts rem


☐ Work four rows straight, ending after Row 5 of cable panel

### SHAPE ARMHOLE

☐ Next row: cast off 5 (6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11) sts loosely, work to end

☐ \*\*\* Next row: still working front slope dec as before on next and foll sixth row **AT THE SAME TIME** dec one st at armhole edge on next five rows, then on foll three alt rows. 39 (41, 43, 45, 47, 49, 51) sts

☐ Cont working front slope decs only as before until 35 (36, 37, 39, 40, 41, 43) sts rem

☐ Cont straight until Front meas same as Back to shoulder shaping, ending at armhole edge 

Vintage  
styling for  
modern  
girls

Knit pattern





#### SHAPE SHOULDER

- ☐ Cast off 7 (7, 7, 8, 8, 9, 9) sts loosely at beg of next and foll alt row, then 6 (7, 8, 8, 9, 8, 10) sts at beg of next alt row
- ☐ Cont straight on rem 15 sts until strip fits half way across back neck
- ☐ Cast off

Using 4mm needles cast on 15 sts

☐ Using this needle with WS facing, work across sts on st holder. 57 (60, 63, 66, 69, 72, 75) sts

☐ Next row: work to last 15 sts, p3, C6F, k6

☐ Next row: k3, work to end Keeping k3 for edge of neckband correct work front slope shaping as folls:

☐ Dec row: work to last 18 sts, k2tog, k1, work to end

☐ Work five rows straight

☐ Rep last six rows until 54 (57, 60, 63, 66, 69, 72) sts rem

☐ Work three rows straight, ending after Row 4 of Cable panel

#### SHAPE ARMHOLE

☐ Next row: cast off 5 (6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11) sts loosely, work to end

☐ Work one row straight

☐ Complete as for first half working from \*\*\* to end

### Sleeves

Using 3.25mm needles cast on 39 (43, 47, 51, 53, 59, 63) sts

☐ Work rib as on Back shaping sleeve by inc one st each end of 13th row, then on every foll sixth row until there are 49 (53, 57, 61, 63, 69, 73) sts, taking extra sts into rib

☐ Work three rows straight Change to 4mm needles

☐ Beg with a k row work in st st inc one st at each end of 5th (5th, next, next, next, next, next) row, then on every

foll 6th (6th, 4th, 4th, 4th, 4th, 4th) row until there are 57 (59, 65, 69, 77, 83, 87) sts, then on every foll sixth row for all sizes until there are 65 (71, 77, 81, 87, 93, 97) sts

☐ Cont straight until Sleeve meas 33 (33, 33, 33, 34, 34, 34) cm from beg, ending after a p row

#### SHAPE TOP

☐ Cast off 5 (6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11) sts loosely at beg of next two rows

☐ Work four rows

☐ Dec one st each end of next and every foll k row until 29 (31, 35, 35, 39, 41, 43) sts rem, then on every row until 19 (21, 25, 25, 29, 31, 33) sts rem

☐ Cast off loosely

### To make up

Join shoulders. Join ends of borders at back of neck and stitch inner edge to cast-off sts at back of neck. Lap right front border over left at centre front and catch cast on sts on WS. Sew in sleeve tops.

Join side and sleeve seams ✂



For stockists of **King Cole Gentle Touch DK** (100g, 220m), turn to page 94.



**Stylecraft Life DK** costs £2.30 per 100g (298m) from The Black Sheep, 01925 764231, [www.blacksheepwools.co.uk](http://www.blacksheepwools.co.uk)



“There’s no stigma surrounding acrylic yarns any more, they’re beautifully soft, insulating and easy to care for”

LK EDITORIAL ASSISTANT ELAINE BENNETT



# northern lights

## Cosy up in Borealis, this cabled cover-up knitted in Bergere de France Alaska

With its pretty kimono-style sleeves, chunky cables and corn stitch borders, Borealis is a striking way to keep warm this winter. It looks great layered over long-sleeved tops and because it's knitted in a blend of wool and acrylic, it's both cosy and easy to care for.

### Cable pattern

**NOTE:** this is worked over 21 sts

- ☐ Row 1 (RS): (k1, p1) three times, k15
- ☐ Row 2 and all even-numbered rows: k over k, p over p

- ☐ Row 3: (p1, k1) three times, p1, k14
- ☐ Row 5: (k1, p1) three times, k9, (p1, k1) three times
- ☐ Row 7: C14B, (p1, k1) three times, p1
- ☐ Row 9: k15, (p1, k1) three times

- ☐ Row 11: k14, (p1, k1) three times, p1
- ☐ Row 13: (k1, p1) three times, k9, (p1, k1) three times
- ☐ Row 15: (p1, k1) three times, p1, C14F
- ☐ Row 17: rep from Row 1

### Corn stitch

- ☐ Row 1 (RS): \* k1, p1, rep from \* to end
- ☐ Row 2: k over k, p over p
- ☐ Row 3: \* p1, k1, rep from \* to end
- ☐ Row 4: k over k, p over p
- ☐ Rep these four rows

### BOREALIS PATTERN Left front

Using 7mm needles cast on 63 (69) sts

- ☐ Row 1: p3 (5), \* work Row 1 of Cable pattern, p3 (5) \*, rep from \* to \* once, work Row 1 of Corn stitch to end
- ☐ Row 2: k over k, p over p
- ☐ Rows 3-32 (42): Cont straight in patt as established
- ☐ Next row (RS): cast on 45 (47) sts [108 (116) sts on needle] and work as folls: 21 sts in Cable patt, p3 (5), 21 sts in Cable patt, cont to end of row in patt as prev established
- ☐ Rows 34 (44)-80 (96): cont straight in patt \*\*, leave these sts on a spare needle

### Right front

- ☐ Rows 1-10: cast on and work as given for Left front, reversing shaping and pattern [i.e work 12 sts in Corn st, p3 (5), work 21 sts in Cable patt, p3 (5) etc]
- ☐ Next row (buttonhole): patt five sts, cast off three sts, patt to end
- ☐ Next row: work in patt to

cast-off sts, cast on three sts, patt to end

- ☐ Cont as for Left front but reversing shaping as far as \*\*

### Back

- ☐ Next row: with RS facing work in patt across Left front as far as 12 border sts, place border sts on a st holder, turn, cast on 21 sts for back neck, turn, slip 12 border sts of



LK EDITORIAL ASSISTANT ELAINE BENNETT

"This textured top is perfect for layering and is a look that all ages can wear. As it's knitted on 7mm needles it works up really quickly"

## knit knowledge

### Measurements & sizes

To fit: S/M (L/XL)

For measurements see schematic below

### Knit kit

**Yarn:** Bergere de France Alaska, shade 212.731  
**Eider,** 15 (20) 50g balls  
**Needles:** 7mm  
**Cable needle**  
**Tapestry needle**  
**Stitch holder**  
**Button:** one, beige, flower



### About the Yarn

Bergere de France Alaska is a mix of 50% superwash wool and 50% acrylic that can be machine washed at 40°C. It comes in a range of 19 solid and marled shades, including a fiery red and a range of pretty blues.

### Special Abbreviations

**C14B:** slip seven sts onto cn at back of work, k7, then k7 from cn

**C14F:** slip seven sts onto cn in front of work, k7, then k7 from cn

**K over k, p over p:** work all sts that were k on prev row as k sts and all sts that were p on prev row as p sts

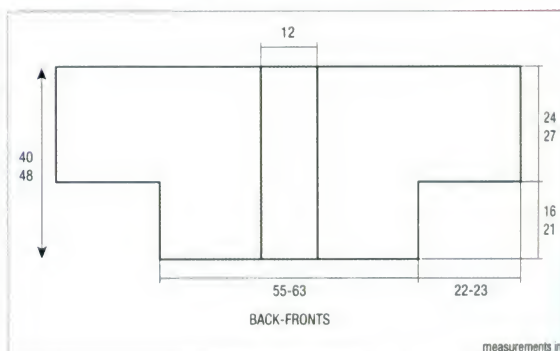
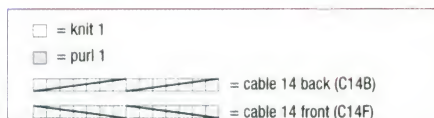
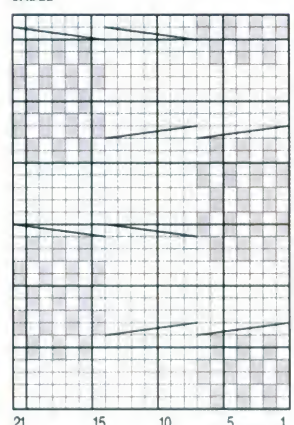
For abbreviations see page 86

## knit wise

### Join in!

Because Bergere de France Alaska is a chunky yarn, you need at least 15 balls of it to make Borealis. This means you'll regularly be joining in new balls as the old ones run out. You should always join in new yarn at the edge of your work to prevent any unsightly joins. If you're unsure whether your current length of yarn will get you to the other end of your next row when working a stitch pattern, fold the length of remaining yarn in half and tie a slip knot at the fold. If you reach the slip knot whilst knitting the next row, you won't have enough for another row so you should undo the knot and join in the new ball at the start of the next row.

### CABLE





*Cosy  
cables to  
wrap up in*


Right front onto a st holder and work in patt across Right front. 213 (229) sts

☐ Next row: cont in patt as established as far as cast-on sts for back neck, cont in Cable patt, patt to end  
☐ Cont in patt, working Cable patt over 21 sts for Back, until Back meas 24 (27) cm from first Back row [end of Row 48 (54)]

#### ARMHOLES

☐ Next row: cast off 45 (47) sts, patt to end  
☐ Next row: rep prev row once. 123 (135) sts  
☐ Cont straight until Back meas 40 (48) cm from first Back row [end of Row 80 (96)]  
☐ Cast off

#### To make up

☐ Right front half-neck: with RS facing, work in Corn st across 12 sts for the Front border, cast on one st for seam allowance and cont in Corn st for a total of ten rows, leave these sts on a spare needle  
☐ Left front half-neck: with RS facing, cast on one st for seam allowance and work in Corn st across 12 sts for Front border, cont in Corn st for a total of nine rows, leave these sts on a spare needle  
 Use tapestry needle to join tog ends of neck borders with chain st, then sew border to neck edge.  
 Backstitch side and sleeve seams. Sew on button 

 *let's shop!*

**Bergere de France**

**Alaska** costs £2.21 per 50g (55m) ball from InToKnit, 0845 8383 762, [www.intoknit.co.uk](http://www.intoknit.co.uk)





# shade of pale

exclusive  
to LK!

You'll love the textured yoke on Alouette, Sian Brown's adorable top

The stocking stitch body of Alouette, our cute little top by Sian Brown, contrasts brilliantly with the highly textured yoke. It's knitted in a subtle duck egg blue shade of baby alpaca and silk, which is a sleek, smooth combination with excellent stitch definition. This yarn is available in a range of vintage shades perfect for the classic style of this fab project.

Retro  
style in  
luxurious  
yarn

## knit knowledge

### Measurements & sizes

To fit bust (cm):	82	(87, 92, 97, 102, 107, 112, 117)
Actual bust (cm):	83	(90, 96, 102, 107, 114, 120, 127)
Length to shoulder (cm):	50	(51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57)
Sleeve length (cm):	15	(15, 15, 15, 15, 15, 15, 15)

### Knit kit

**Yarn:** Debbie Bliss Andes, shade 11, 7 (7, 8, 8, 8, 9, 9, 9)  
50g balls

**Needles:** 3.25mm, 4mm

**Stitch holder**

10cm	10cm	30 rows
	tension square	
	stocking stitch	
	4mm needles	
	22 sts	

### About the Yarn

Introduced last autumn, **Debbie Bliss Andes** is a blend of 65% baby alpaca and 35% mulberry silk (the highest grade of quality silk). Soft with a gorgeous sheen, it is available in 16 shades including a stunning gold.

### Need an alternative?

**King Cole Baby Alpaca DK** is made of 100% alpaca and is light, hard-wearing and warm. This yarn is very soft with a similar sheen to the featured yarn, try shade 507 Lichen or 508 Teal.

For abbreviations see page 86





## ALOUETTE PATTERN Back

With 3.25mm needles cast on 90 (98, 106, 110, 118, 126, 130, 138) sts

- ☐ Row 1: k2, (p2, k2) to end
- ☐ Row 2: p2, (k2, p2) to end

**NOTE:** these two rows form rib

### FIRST, SECOND, FOURTH, SEVENTH AND EIGHTH SIZES ONLY

- ☐ Rep last two rows five times more inc two sts evenly across row. 92 (100, 112, 132, 140) sts

### THIRD, FIFTH AND SIXTH SIZES ONLY

- ☐ Rep last two rows five times more. (106, 118, 126) sts

### ALL SIZES

Change to 4mm needles

- ☐ Starting with a k row work four rows in st st
- ☐ Next row (dec): k3, skpo, k to last five sts, k2tog, k3
- ☐ Work three rows
- ☐ Rep last four rows four times more, then rep dec row again. 80 (88, 94, 100, 106, 114, 120, 128) sts
- ☐ Starting with a p row work seven rows in st st
- ☐ Next row (inc): k3, m1, k to last three sts, m1, k3

- ☐ Rep last eight rows five times more. 92 (100, 106, 112, 118, 126, 132, 140) sts
- ☐ Cont in st st until work meas 28 (29, 29, 30, 30, 31, 31, 32) cm from cast on edge, ending with a p row

Cont in patt as folls:

- ☐ Row 1: k1, (k2tog) to last st, k1
- ☐ Row 2: k1, (m1, k1) to last st, k1
- ☐ Row 3: k to end
- ☐ Row 4: p to end

**NOTE:** these rows form patt and are repeated

- ☐ Cont in patt until Back meas 30 (31, 31, 32, 32, 33, 33, 34) cm from cast on edge, ending with Row 2 of patt \*\*

### SHAPE ARMHOLES

- ☐ Cast off 5 (6, 6, 7, 7, 8, 8, 9) sts at beg of next two rows. 82 (88, 94, 98, 104, 110, 116, 122) sts
- ☐ Next row: k1, skpo, patt to last three sts, k2tog, k1

## knit wise

### Skpo to the lou

To work skpo, or slip 1, knit 1, pass slipped stitch over, you simply slip the first stitch on the left needle by inserting the tip of the right needle into it and slipping it over onto the right needle. Knit the next stitch on the left needle as normal. To pass the slipped stitch over, pick up the second to last stitch on the right needle with the tip of your left needle and pass it over the knit stitch you just made and off the tip of the needle. This creates a neat left leaning decrease.

- ☐ Next row: p2, patt to last two sts, p2
- ☐ Rep last two rows 7 (8, 9, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13) times. 66 (70, 74, 78, 82, 86, 90, 94) sts
- ☐ Cont in patt until Back meas 50 (51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57) cm from cast on edge, ending with Row 2 of patt

### SHAPE ARMHOLES

- ☐ Cast off 5 (6, 6, 7, 7, 8, 8, 9) sts at beg of next two rows. 82 (88, 94, 98, 104, 110, 116, 122) sts
- ☐ Next row: k1, skpo, patt to last three sts, k2tog, k1
- ☐ Next row: p2, patt to last two sts, p2
- ☐ Rep last two rows 2 (2, 4, 4, 6, 6, 8, 8) times. 76 (82, 84, 88, 90, 96, 98, 104) sts

### SHAPE SHOULDERS

- ☐ Cast off 10 (11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17) sts at beg of next two rows
- ☐ Leave rem 46 (48, 50, 52, 54, 56, 58, 60) sts on a holder

### SHAPE NECK

- ☐ Next row: k1, skpo, patt 27 (29, 29, 30, 31, 33, 33, 35), turn and work on these sts for first side of front neck
- ☐ Next row: patt to end
- ☐ Next row: k1, skpo, patt to last three sts, k2tog, k1
- ☐ Next row: p2, patt to last

## Front

Work as for Back to \*\*

## Get the look

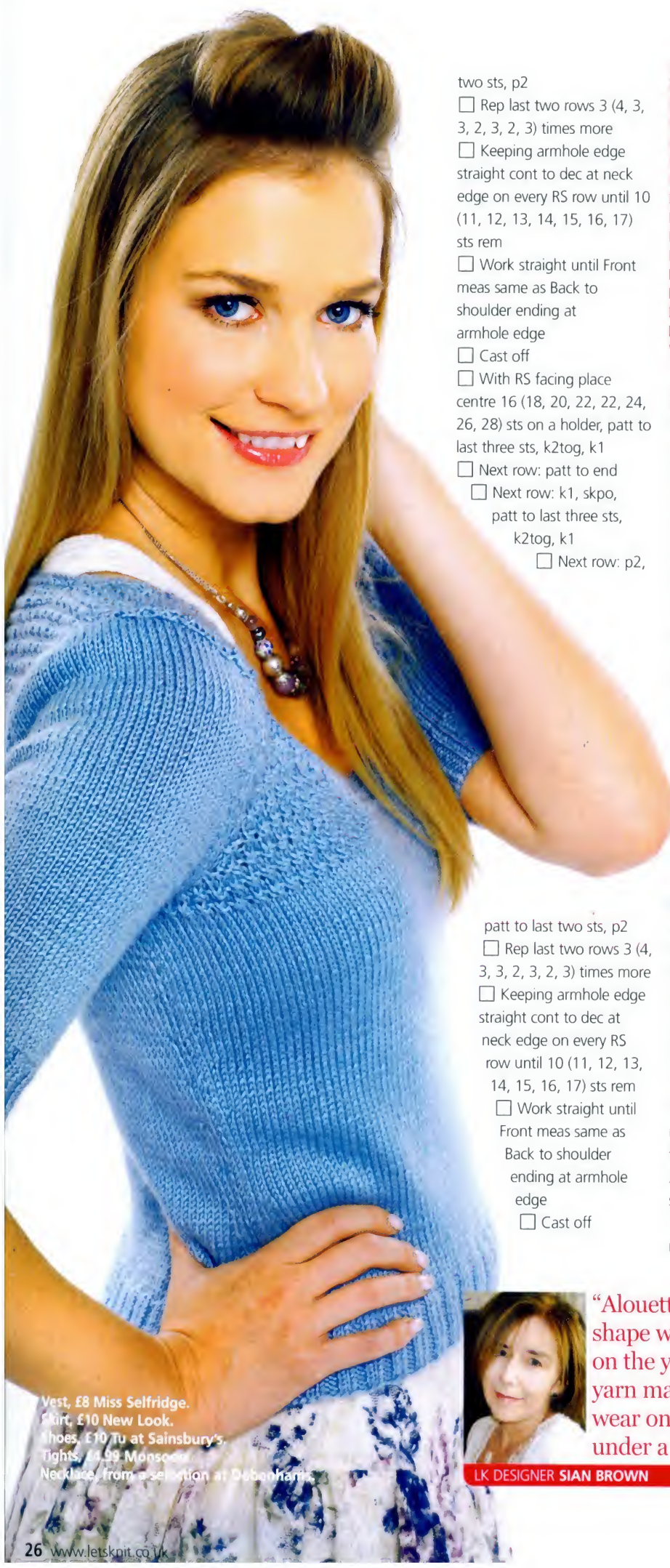
**Cameo Multi Charm Pearl Bracelet**, £18, Talullah Tu, 020 8227 9802, [www.talullahtu.co.uk](http://www.talullahtu.co.uk)

**Miss KG Metallic Courts**, £65, Debenhams stores nationwide

**Darling Jemima Skirt**, £45, Colourful Fashion, 01297 444110, [www.colourfulfashion.com](http://www.colourfulfashion.com)

**Rosey Posey Purse**, £10, Accessorize stores nationwide





two sts, p2

☐ Rep last two rows 3 (4, 3, 3, 2, 3, 2, 3) times more

☐ Keeping armhole edge straight cont to dec at neck edge on every RS row until 10 (11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17) sts rem

☐ Work straight until Front meas same as Back to shoulder ending at armhole edge

☐ Cast off

☐ With RS facing place centre 16 (18, 20, 22, 22, 24, 26, 28) sts on a holder, patt to last three sts, k2tog, k1

☐ Next row: patt to end

☐ Next row: k1, skpo, patt to last three sts, k2tog, k1

☐ Next row: p2,

patt to last two sts, p2

☐ Rep last two rows 3 (4, 3, 3, 2, 3, 2, 3) times more

☐ Keeping armhole edge straight cont to dec at neck edge on every RS row until 10 (11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17) sts rem

☐ Work straight until Front meas same as Back to shoulder ending at armhole edge

☐ Cast off



LK DESIGNER SIAN BROWN

## Try something different

If you'd like to try knitting *Alouette* in a cotton yarn, visit Carolyn Kennington's Bulldog Krafts website to see what it would look like. Carolyn has been knitting a project from each issue of *Let's Knit* since our September issue in her own Butterfly 100% cotton yarn which is a high quality, cool yarn ideal for spring projects. Butterfly Super 10 yarn knits up to a DK weight, comes in over 35 stunning shades and costs £7 per 125g (230m) skein although LK readers can get a special discount. Visit [www.bulldogkrafts.co.uk](http://www.bulldogkrafts.co.uk) to see the finished knit.

### Sleeves

With 3.25mm needles cast on 54 (58, 62, 66, 70, 74, 78, 82) sts

☐ Row1: k2, (p2, k2) to end

☐ Row 2: p2, (k2, p2) to end

☐ Rep last two rows five times more

Change to 4mm needles

☐ Beg with a k row, work two rows in st st

☐ Next row (inc): k3, m1, k to last three sts, m1, k3

☐ Work five rows

☐ Rep last six rows four times more, then rep inc row again. 66 (70, 74, 78, 82, 86, 90, 94) sts

☐ Cont straight until Sleeve meas 15cm from cast on edge, ending with a p row

☐ Cast off rem 16 (16, 18, 18, 20, 22, 24) sts

### NECK EDGING

Join right shoulder seam

☐ Using 3.25mm and with RS facing, pick up and k 42 sts down left side of front neck, k across 16 (18, 20, 22, 22, 24, 26, 28) sts from centre front neck, pick up and k 42 sts up right side of front neck, k across 46 (48, 50, 52, 54, 56, 58, 60) sts from back neck holder

☐ K two rows

☐ Cast off

### To make up

Join left shoulder and neckband seam. Join side and sleeve seams. Sew in sleeves

### SHAPE SLEEVE TOP

☐ Cast off 5 (6, 6, 7, 7, 8, 8, 9) sts at beg of next two rows. 56 (58, 62, 64, 68, 70, 74, 76) sts

☐ Next row: k2, skpo, k to last four sts, k2tog, k2

☐ Next row: p to end

☐ Rep last two rows 6 (6, 8, 10, 11, 11, 14, 14) times more, then dec as set on every fourth row from prev dec until 32 (32, 34, 34, 36, 38, 38, 40) sts rem, ending with a p row

☐ Cast off four sts at beg of next four rows

## let's shop!

**Debbie Bliss Andes** costs £5.95 per 50g (100m) hank from Cafe Knit, 020 8863 1301, [www.cafeknit.com](http://www.cafeknit.com)



**King Cole Baby Alpaca DK** costs £4.99 per 50g (100m) ball from Purplelinda Crafts, [www.purplelindacrafts.co.uk](http://www.purplelindacrafts.co.uk)



Vest, £8 Miss Selfridge.  
Shirt, £10 New Look.  
Shoes, £10 Tu at Sainsbury's.  
Tights, £4.99 Monsoon.  
Necklace, from a selection at Debenhams.

"Alouette is a feminine shape with a simple texture on the yoke. The lovely soft yarn makes it perfect to wear on its own or layered under a cardigan"





**Personalised Charm Pendant** (bracelet not included), £25, For Her From You, 02392 342465, [www.forherfromyou.co.uk](http://www.forherfromyou.co.uk)



**Gifted: Lovely Little Things to Knit and Crochet**, £17.99, Interweave, 01892 510850, [www.searchpress.co.uk](http://www.searchpress.co.uk)



**The Stamp Collection – Sent With Love China Mug**, £9.99, The Gifted Penguin, 01642 763000, [www.giftedpenguin.co.uk](http://www.giftedpenguin.co.uk)

# for someone special

Share the love this February with our great selection of heartfelt treats

Valentine's day may be a day to show your significant other how much you care, but why stop there? Take this opportunity to tell all your friends and family just how special they are with these fabulous gifts. Mugs, bookmarks and personalised wine are always sure to go down well with the recipient. Any knitter will be inspired by this fabulous book of projects, while the crochet boxes and needle roll celebrate the love theme in all its glory.



**Personalised Bottle of Rose Wine**, £16.95, Prezzy Box, 0844 249 5007, [www.prezzybox.com](http://www.prezzybox.com)



**Yarn Love**, £16.50, Pure Purl, 0161 223 6425, [www.purepurl.com](http://www.purepurl.com)



**Mother's Day Fabric Bookmarks**, £3.50, The Contemporary Home, 02392 469400, [www.tch.net](http://www.tch.net)



**Pink Heart Crochet Boxes**, £7.99, Beautiful Things, 0845 644 2375, [www.beautifulthings.co.uk](http://www.beautifulthings.co.uk)



**Love Heart Knitting Needle Roll**, £12, Nic's Knots, [www.nicksknots.co.uk](http://www.nicksknots.co.uk)



# coming up roses

Our gorgeous Georgina bag by Helen Ardley features a pretty ripple stitch pattern and floral lining

**K**nitted in a luxurious blend of cashmere and merino, Georgina by Helen Ardley has a fantastic pattern of ridges down each side. These are easy to create, simply pick up a stitch from several rows below and then purl together with the next stitch on the needle. The design is completed with simple stocking stitch panels to hold the wooden handles in place and is lined with a feminine floral fabric.

Sweet  
lined  
bag

exclusive  
to LK!

## knit knowledge

### Measurements & sizes

**Georgina:** 30.5cm x 35cm (including handles)

### Knit kit

**Yarn:** Rowan Cashsoft DK, shade 501 Sweet, four 50g balls; oddments of yarn, purple, DK (for stripes)

**Needles:** 4mm

**Embroidery needle**

**Matching thread**

**Fabric:** floral, 40cm x 35cm

**Handles:** wooden, rectangular, 13cm x 8cm



### About the Yarn

**Rowan Cashsoft DK** is a machine washable blend of 57% extra fine merino, 33% acrylic and 10% cashmere. It comes in 22 shades from lime green to rich pink.

### Need an alternative?

**Sirdar Snuggly Baby Bamboo DK** has a similar sheen to the featured yarn and is made from 80% bamboo and 20% wool. It can be machine washed at 40°C. Choose blush shades 134 Babe or 158 Rinky Dinky Pink.

For abbreviations see page 86





## knit wise

### Unchained melody

To work a chain stitch motif, bring your embroidery needle through to the front of the fabric between two stitches. Take it back through where it came out and make a straight stitch two knitted stitches below. Loop the working yarn under the tip of the needle and gently pull the stitch to form a loop. Repeat until your line is the correct length.

### GEORGINA PATTERN Side (make two)

Using 4mm needles cast on 68 sts

- ☐ Row 1: k
- ☐ Row 2: k1, p to last st, k1
- ☐ Row 3: k
- ☐ Row 4: as Row 2
- ☐ Row 5: k
- ☐ Row 6: as Row 2
- ☐ Row 7: k
- ☐ Row 8: k1, \* wyif use RH

needle to pick up st four rows down, place onto LH needle, p two sts tog, rep from \* to last st, k1

These eight rows form Ripple patt

☐ Rep patt until 14 Ripples have been worked (approx 22cm)

☐ Next row (dec row): sl 1, k1, pssso, k to last two sts, k2tog

☐ Next row: k1, p to last st, k1

☐ Rep last two rows twice more

☐ Next row: sl 1, k1, pssso, k to last two sts, k2tog

☐ Next row: as Row 8

These last eight rows form dec rows and patt

☐ Cont dec each end of needle on all alt rows, keeping Ripple patt correct, until 24 sts rem

- ☐ Cont in st st for 14 rows
- ☐ Cast off

### To make up

Cut out two pieces of fabric the same shape as bag, excluding st st at top of bag, leaving approx 2cm extra around bag for turning under. Embroider stripes as folls: on one piece of bag mark top ripple at centre. Chain stitch down to bottom ripple (see Knit wise panel). Measure 5cm to each side of centre stripe and make two more vertical stripes. Measure 10cm to each side of centre stripe and make two more vertical stripes. Placing WS of knitting tog and using mattress st, sew across bottom of bag and up two side seams to start of shaping. Sew handles into place by putting top of bag (st st rows) through handle and over to WS. Sew down flap at back. Sew in all loose ends. Line bag with your chosen fabric, turning under a seam and hand sewing fabric into position 



“Ripple stitch does take time to get the hang of but it's a clever technique that makes the finished bag look very striking”

LK DESIGNER HELEN ARDLEY

## let's shop!

**Rowan Cashsoft DK**  
costs £4.75 per 50g (130m) ball from Stash Fine Yarns,  
**01244 389310,**  
**www.celticove.com**



**Sirdar Snuggly Baby Bamboo DK** costs £3.60 per 50g (90m) ball from **Alternative Polperro,**  
**01503 273155,**  
**www.alternativepolperro.co.uk**



**Chocolate Rectangular Wood Handles,** model WH002, £6.50, U-Handbag, **01273 747112,**  
**www.u-handbag.com**

Dress, £24.99 TK Maxx. Cardigan, £59 M&S.





# simply soothing

exclusive  
to LK!

Great  
project for  
newbies!

## Curl up with Mara, Nancy Atkinson's stripy hot water bottle cover with a calming lavender scent

Our simple striped hot water bottle cover by Nancy Atkinson features a lavender-scented sachet pocket which will create a lovely relaxing aroma once the bottle is warm. This is a great project for beginner knitters as it is knitted in simple rib and stocking stitch. We've used a range of bright shades but this cotton yarn also comes in a pretty range of tranquil blues.

### MARA PATTERN Hot water bottle cover

Using 4mm needles and yarn B cast on 28 sts

☐ Row 1: \* k1, p1, rep from \* to end

☐ Rows 2-30: rep Row 1  
This forms k1, p1 rib

☐ Next row: cast on three sts, p1, cont in k1, p1 rib to end. 31 sts

☐ Next row: cast on three sts, cont in k1, p1 rib to last st, k1. 34 sts

☐ Next row: cast on four sts, change to yarn A, k to end. 38 sts

☐ Next row: cast on four sts, p to end. 42 sts

☐ Next row: k

☐ Next row: p

**NOTE:** cont in st st, letter in brackets indicates which yarn

to use

☐ Two rows (C)

☐ Four rows (F)

☐ Two rows (B)

☐ Six rows (D)

☐ Two rows (A)

☐ Four rows (E)

☐ Two rows (F)

☐ Two rows (C)

☐ Six rows (B)

☐ Four rows (D)

☐ Four rows (A)

### knit knowledge

#### Measurements & sizes

**To fit:** standard size hot water bottle 20cm wide x 35cm tall

#### Knit kit

**Yarn:** Debbie Bliss Cotton DK, (A) shade 47 Signal Red, (B) shade 44 Bright Pink, (C) shade 56 Pale Yellow, (D) shade 55 Pale Green, (E), shade 09 Duck Egg Blue, (F) shade 54 Jade Green, one 50g ball of each

**Needles:** 4mm

**Cotton fabric:** 8cm x 18cm, yellow, for lavender sachet

**Dried lavender**, or toy stuffing and lavender essential oil

**Sewing machine**, or needle and thread

**Darning needle**

**NOTE:** you do not need full balls of every colour for this project. See below for information about quantities

#### About the Yarn

Debbie Bliss Cotton DK is a soft pure cotton yarn available in 20 shades. It's machine washable and knits up into a warm fabric with excellent stitch definition.

#### Need an Alternative?

The cosy weighs about 130g and uses a full 50g ball of the pink shade but only a third of each of the others, so it may be worth hunting around in your stash for some suitable oddments.

For abbreviations see page 86







- ☐ Two rows (F)
- ☐ Six rows (E)
- ☐ Two rows (B)
- ☐ Two rows (A)
- ☐ Four rows (C)
- ☐ Two rows (D)
- ☐ Six rows (F)
- ☐ Four rows (B)
- Change to yarn E
- ☐ Next row: cast off two sts, k to end. 40 sts
- ☐ Next row: cast off two sts, p to end. 38 sts
- ☐ Rep last two rows twice. 30 sts
- ☐ Next row: k
- ☐ Next row: p
- ☐ Next row: cast on two sts, k to end. 32 sts

- ☐ Next row: cast on two sts, p to end. 34 sts
- ☐ Rep last two rows twice. 42 sts
- NOTE:** now work in st st, letter in brackets indicates which yarn to use
- ☐ Four rows (B)
- ☐ Six rows (F)
- ☐ Two rows (D)
- ☐ Four rows (C)
- ☐ Two rows (A)
- ☐ Two rows (B)
- ☐ Six rows (E)
- ☐ Two rows (F)
- ☐ Four rows (A)
- ☐ Four rows (D)
- ☐ Six rows (B)
- ☐ Two rows (C)

- ☐ Two rows (F)
- ☐ Four rows (E)
- ☐ Two rows (A)
- ☐ Six rows (D)
- ☐ Two rows (B)
- ☐ Four rows (F)
- ☐ Two rows (C)
- ☐ Four rows (A)
- ☐ Next row: cast off four sts, change to yarn B, k to end. 38 sts
- ☐ Cast off four sts, p to end. 34 sts
- ☐ Cast off three sts, starting with a k st work in k1, p1 rib. 31 sts
- ☐ Next row: rep last row once. 28 sts
- ☐ Cont to work in rib for 30 rows
- ☐ Cast off

## Pocket

Using 4mm needles and yarn A cast on 18 sts

- ☐ Work in k1, p1 rib for 26 rows
- ☐ Cast off



LK DESIGNER **NANCY ATKINSON**

**"Mara would make the perfect gift for someone special, or knit a little warmth and indulgence just for yourself"**

## Lavender sachet

Fold cotton fabric in half, RS facing. Machine or hand stitch along each side, leaving an opening at top of pocket. Turn and press with a hot iron. Fill pocket with dried lavender or toy stuffing scented with a few drops of lavender essential oil. Tuck opening seam inwards and stitch closed

sides of ribbed neck using mattress st. This conceals seams when you turn over polo neck of bottle cover. Using a running stitch sew pocket in place. Insert hot water bottle

## To make up

With WS facing, sew from bottom of hot water bottle cover up to where ribbed neck begins using mattress st (see p90). Turn cover inside out so RS are facing and sew

## knit wise

### Time saver

There's no need to weave in the tails of yarn on Mara created by all the stripes as these will be concealed within your hot water bottle cover. Instead, simply trim them down to around 3cm in length.

**let's shop!**

**Debbie Bliss Cotton DK** costs £3.50 per 50g (70m) ball from Stash Fine Yarns, **01244 389310**, [www.celticove.com](http://www.celticove.com)





# the greatest cape

Keep cosy with Tilly,  
a wonderfully chunky  
cape by Zoë Halstead

Simple  
yet stylish  
cape

Capes are ideal for the winter and while a fully buttoned up coat can sometimes be a little restrictive, this project allows your arms to move freely. Reaching down to mid-thigh, Tilly is generous in size and great for keeping out the chills. Knitted in simple stocking stitch with a garter stitch border, this cape is suitable for knitters of all levels and the self-patterning yarn does the colourwork so you don't have to! ➤

exclusive  
to LK!

## knit knowledge

### Measurements & sizes

	S	(M,	L-XL)
<b>Dress size:</b>	8-10	(12-14,	16-20)
<b>To fit bust (cm):</b>	81-86	(91-97,	102-117)
<b>Width around bottom edge (cm):</b>	240	(264,	315)
<b>Length (cm):</b>	70	(70,	70)

### Knit kit

**Yarn:** Sirdar Escape Chunky, shade 179 Endeavour; 16 (18, 21) 50g balls

**Needles:** 6.5mm, 7mm, 7.5mm

**Stitch holders:** five

**Safety pins or small stitch holders:** two

**Buttons:** eight

**Tapestry needle**



### About the Yarn

**Sirdar Escape Chunky** blends 51% wool with 49% acrylic and is soft and warm. Two strands are plied together for a marled effect but the yarn also has a soft self-stripping pattern throughout. It is also machine washable making it great for outerwear. Choose from 13 colourways.

### Need an Alternative?

**James C Brett Marble Chunky** is a soft 100% acrylic yarn that knits up into a smooth fabric with a blended stripe pattern. There are over 25 shades available, including MC2 which is a close match to the featured yarn.

For abbreviations see page 86







Beret, £9.99, jeans, £19.99, boots, £29.99 all TK Maxx. Jewellery from a selection at Debenhams

## TILLY PATTERN Back

Using 7.5mm needles, cast on 82 (88, 102) sts

☐ K five rows

Change to 7mm needles

☐ K six rows

Change to 6.5mm needles

☐ K five rows

☐ Beg with a k row, work six rows in st st

☐ Next row: k1, skpo, k to last three sts, k2tog, k1

☐ Beg with a p row, work 7 (5, 3) rows in st st

☐ Cont to dec two sts as set

on next and every foll 8th (6th, 4th) row until 62 (62, 64) sts rem

☐ P one row

### SHAPE RAGLAN

☐ Dec two sts on next and every foll alt row until 24 (24, 26) sts rem

☐ Beg with a p row, work three rows in st st

Leave rem sts on a holder for Collar

### Left front

\*\* Using 7.5mm needles, cast on 62 (70, 86) sts

☐ K five rows

Change to 7mm needles

☐ K six rows

Change to 6.5mm needles

☐ K five rows \*\*

☐ Next row: k to last seven sts, turn

Slip these seven sts onto a safety pin or small holder for front band

☐ \*\*\* Beg with a p row,

work five rows in st st on rem 55 (63, 79) sts

☐ Next row: k1, skpo, k to last three sts, k2tog, k1

☐ Beg with a p row, work 7 (5, 3) rows in st st

☐ Cont to dec two sts as set on next and every foll 8th (6th, 4th) row until 35 (37, 41) sts rem \*\*\*

☐ P one row

### SHAPE RAGLAN

☐ Next row: k1, skpo, k to end

☐ P one row

☐ Dec one st as set at beg of next and every foll alt row **AT**

**THE SAME TIME** cont to dec one st at end of row as prev set on every 8th (6th, 4th) row until 12 (12, 13) sts rem

☐ Beg with a p row, work three rows in st st

Leave rem sts on a holder for Collar

### Right front

☐ Work as for Left front from \*\* to \*\*

☐ Next row: k7, slip these sts onto a safety pin or small holder for Front band, k to end

☐ Work as for Left front from \*\*\* to \*\*\*

☐ P one row

### SHAPE RAGLAN

☐ Next row: k to last three sts, k2tog, k1

☐ P one row

☐ Cont to dec one st as set at end of next and every foll alt row **AT THE SAME TIME** cont to dec one st at beg of row as prev set on every 8th (6th, 4th) row until 12 (12, 13) sts rem

☐ Beg with a p row, work three rows in st st

Leave rem sts on a holder for collar

### Sleeve sections

Using 7.5mm needles, cast on 70 (76, 89) sts

☐ K five rows

Change to 7mm needles

☐ K six rows

Change to 6.5mm needles

☐ K five rows

☐ Beg with a k row, work six rows in st st

## knit wise

### Keeping track

When working the raglan sections on our Tilly cape you are told to start a new set of decreases **AT THE SAME TIME** as continuing the previous decrease pattern. This is not uncommon in knitting patterns but can make it difficult to keep track of where you are. Some knitters may find it easier to write out the instructions in full to include both sets of shaping for the size you are making. It may also help to place different coloured stitch markers on each of the decrease stitches so you can easily see how many rows have been worked. Reposition the respective marker on the next relevant decrease row.





- ☐ Next row: k1, skpo, k to last three sts, k2tog, k1
- ☐ Beg with a p row, work 7 (5, 3) rows in st st
- ☐ Cont to dec two sts as set on next and every foll 8th (6th, 4th) row until 50 (50, 51) sts rem
- ☐ P one row

#### SHAPE RAGLAN

- ☐ Dec two sts as set on next and every foll alt row until 12 (12, 13) sts rem
- ☐ Beg with a p row, work three rows in st st

Leave rem sts on a holder for Collar

#### Collar

Sew seams, placing each sleeve section between Fronts and Back, matching shapings and using one stitch at each edge for seams

Using 6.5mm needle and with RS facing, rejoin yarn to sts on holder at top of Right front and work as folls:

- ☐ Right front: k1 (1, 2), [p2, k2] twice, p1, p2tog tbl
- ☐ Sleeve: skpo, k1, [p2, k2]

1 (1, 2) times, p2 (2, 0), p0 (0, 2) tog tbl, k1 (1, 0), k2 (2, 0) tog

☐ Back: p2tog, p1 (1, 0), [k2, p2] 4 (4, 5) times, k2, p1 (1, 0), p2tog tbl

☐ Sleeve: skpo (skpo, k0), k1 (1, 0), p0 (0, 2) tog, p2 (2, 0), [k2, p2] 1 (1, 2) times, k1, k2tog

☐ Left front: p2tog, p1, [k2, p2] twice, k1 (1, 2). 64 (64, 70) sts

☐ Next row: p1 (1, 2), [k2, p2] 15 (15, 16) times, k2, p1 (1, 2)

☐ Cont in rib as set until Collar meas 10 (11, 12) cm from beg ending with a WS row

☐ Cast off in rib

#### Left front band

With RS facing, slip sts from safety pin onto a 6.5mm needle and rejoin yarn

☐ Cast on one st, k to end. Eight sts

☐ Work in garter st until Front band fits up Left front edge and Collar to cast-off edge

☐ Cast off

Sew Left front band to Left front. Place stitch markers to show the position of six buttons, the first 9cm from bottom, the last 15cm from top of Collar and space four evenly between

#### Right front band

With WS facing, slip sts from safety pin onto a 6.5mm needle and rejoin yarn

☐ Cast on one st, k to end. Eight sts

☐ Work in garter st to match Left front band working buttonholes on RS rows to correspond with markers as folls:

☐ Buttonhole row: k3, yfwd, k2tog, k3

☐ Work in garter st until band is required length

☐ Cast off

#### To make up

Weave in ends. Sew Right front band to Right front, attaching buttons to Left band to correspond with markers. Sew a button on front at sleeve section just above garter st hem going through all layers to form sleeves



**"A chunky cape like this is a key fashion piece for this season. It is knitted and constructed very easily thanks to chunky yarn and simple stitches"**

LK DESIGNER ZOË HALSTEAD

#### let's shop

**Sirdar Escape Chunky** costs £3.10 per 50g (60m) ball; **James C Brett Marble Chunky** costs £3.99 per 200g (312m) ball from Click on Crafts, 0113 248 0044, [www.clickoncrafts.co.uk](http://www.clickoncrafts.co.uk)



# New beginnings

Ever wanted to get off the treadmill and do something you really love? We speak to Lynn Lester, owner of new yarn shop Tricolette, who's done just that

Just a stone's throw from Abbey Road in London, and the famous zebra crossing where the Beatles took that photo in 1969, you'll find new yarn shop Tricolette and its proud owner Lynn Lester. The shop's classy purple and cream exterior and welcoming glow give it a boutique feel and encourage anyone passing to pop in for a browse.



The sheep tile that sealed the deal

## Time for change

The shop was opened at the end of October after Lynn made a life-changing decision. "I was made redundant from my job as an HR

Director at the end of August" she explains. "I had been working 24/7 up until then so in a way I was glad to be able to get off the treadmill and take stock of my life because not everybody gets the chance to do that." She used her new-found freedom to get back into weaving, a skill she'd always enjoyed when she was less busy. "My friends were impressed with the items I made and said I should sell my work and it was then that the idea of owning a yarn shop began



The iconic Abbey Road where the Beatles recorded

to take hold" Lynn explains. She quickly began looking for premises and soon found the shop. "I loved it straight away," says Lynn. "It was like when you walk into a house you're thinking of buying and know immediately that it's right for you. The shop used to be a butcher's and there was a marvellous tiled sheep high up on the wall. When my daughter saw that she said, "Mum, it's a sign!" and so I went ahead with it."

## Luxury products

Lynn had never worked in retail before but soon began deciding on what stock to purchase. "Until we opened, the only other place local people could buy yarn from was the nearby department store but we aim to offer advice and help to our clients as well. Because we're a smaller shop we hope to become a valued community resource where new and experienced knitters alike can come in to ask our opinion or discuss their latest projects". The walls inside the airy shop are floor to ceiling yarn, creating a wonderful visual feast for all those who enter. "We stock some lovely high end products" explains Lynn, "as well as a set of core products such as Rowan and Debbie Bliss that everyone likes." Now that the shop is open, Lynn has also taken into consideration what her new clientèle are after and has brought in cashmere yarns and children's brands such as Milla Mia. "I'm also interested in supporting community projects by selling Fair Trade yarn such as Manos del Uruguay," continues Lynn.



A woven scarf and knitted accessories by Lynn

## Past life

Although Lynn may not have any previous retail experience, she's been creative throughout her life and has always had an enduring passion for fibre. "I started knitting when I was young", she explains. "When my children were little we moved to America and it was there that I met a local lady who was a truly excellent weaver. She invited me back to her house to see her weaving room and my stomach did a quadruple somersault when I saw all the fantastic equipment and yarn – I knew that I had to have my own weaving room, much to my husband's annoyance!" After

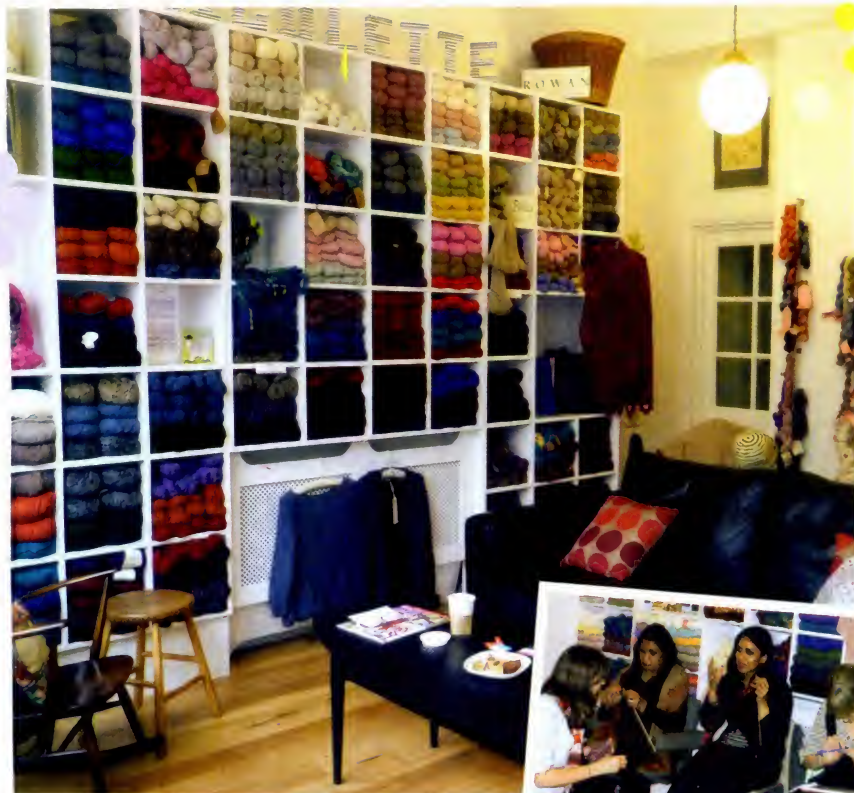
moving back to the UK some years later, Lynn joined the Cambridgeshire Guild of Weavers, Spinners and Dyers to continue her passion. Upon returning to work once her children were older, Lynn found that she was too busy to dedicate much time to her hobby but last year decided to buy a loom and also knit Christmas presents for friends and family which reignited her passion once more.



"My stomach did a quadruple somersault when I saw all the fantastic equipment and yarn"







## Choices, choices

Now Lynn had secured her shop and decided on the stock, it was time to choose a name.

"I considered a variety of puns and humorous names but I couldn't find anything original that fitted my vision of the shop. In the end I decided on 'Tricolette' which means 'knitted fabric' from the French *tricoter*, 'to knit'. It also conjures up the idea of 'three colours', which is what I've based the shop's branding on". From the shop front to its business cards and its advertisements, a gorgeous aubergine, pistachio and pink theme runs throughout, tying everything together in one sophisticated colour palette.

Tricolette is also decked out with comfy settees where the weekly Knit Night takes



place. "We have had a great turn out" explains Lynn. "We all order food from the local café and have some wine and a good natter. We've become a real community already and I've made some great friends. One of our members recently had a baby so we've all clubbed together to knit her a patchwork baby blanket. All the more experienced knitters help out the beginners and it's a lovely atmosphere – everyone is really eager to help me make Tricolette a big success."

In the future Lynn plans to run workshops in the large basement underneath the shop. "I'd like to sell spinning and weaving supplies as well as knitting and also start my own dyeing workshops. I'm particularly interested in teaching people about combining textures and colours so they can make items that really suit them. That, to me, is more interesting than simply following a pattern". The Tricolette website is now up and running too, meaning that even if you can't make the journey to London, you can browse all of Lynn's stock from the comfort of your own home.

To visit Tricolette, head to 93 Boundary Road, St John's Wood, London or for more information call 020 7372 4944 or visit [www.tricoletteyarns.com](http://www.tricoletteyarns.com)

"We've become a real community already and I've made some great friends"



## getting to know you

My favourite yarn...

Manos del Uruguay Silk Blend



My favourite knitwear designer...

Simone Shailes, young designer for Topshop

My favourite knitting technique...

A lovely wrap around concoction using Silk Blend



My advice to anyone thinking of starting a yarn business...

Go for it! It's so much fun working with knitters, they're such lovely people

My top tip for new knitters...

To be well established providing beautiful yarns, interesting workshops and sharing lots of creative ideas with fellow fibre fanatics





# the famous five

exclusive to LK!

Use your FREE yarn to knit one of these fabulous textured projects

**S**oft and bobbly, our textured Cookie yarn is ideal for knits that are a little bit different. The neutral shade makes it great for both baby and homeware projects and different effects can be created depending on the size of needle you choose. Two balls is enough to make one of the following: a tea cosy, cushion or scarf, or a baby hat and scratch mitts set.

ali

## ALI PATTERN

☐ Cut 40 lengths of yarn A, each one five bobbles long, set aside

Using 12mm needles, cast on 14 sts

☐ Work in garter st until

desired length or until 40cm of second ball remains for casting off

☐ Cast off

## To make up

Use half the cut lengths of

yarn at each end. Pass crochet hook through a stitch at one end of scarf, fold a length over the hook and pull back through work creating a loop. Hook the tails and bring through this loop. Pull tight to secure. Space fringing evenly across width of scarf, trim ends of yarn close to last bobble to finish

## Knit knowledge

### Measurements & sizes

**Jesse (cushion):** 35cm x 35cm

**Ali (scarf):** 220cm x 9cm (inc. tassels)

**Tyler (tea cosy):** to fit a medium-sized teapot

**Sam (hat):** to fit babies aged 0-9 months

**Stevie (mitts):** to fit babies aged 0-9 months

### Knit kit

**Yarn:** (A) Cookie, **FREE with this issue of Let's Knit**,

(B) Patons Smoothie DK, shade 1010 Lime, one 100g ball [for Jesse], (C) Bonus Toytime DK, shade 961 White, one 25g ball [for Sam and Stevie], oddment of smooth DK for sewing up

**Needles:** 3.75mm (for Sam and Stevie), 4mm (for Jesse), 5mm (for Tyler, Sam and Stevie), 12mm (for Ali)

**Crochet hook:** 3.5mm (for Ali)

**Tapestry needle**

**Fabric:** cotton, Amy Butler

**Buttons:** mother of pearl, three (for Jesse)

**Cushion pad:** 35cm x 35cm

**Ribbon:** 24mm wide, satin, 40cm (for Tyler)

**Sewing machine and matching thread**



### About the Yarn

**Cookie** is designed exclusively for Let's Knit magazine and is made from 100% polyester. We recommend washing by hand to maintain the bounce of the pompoms. It should not be tumble dried.

For abbreviations see page 86

## JESSE PATTERN Panel 1

Using 4mm needles and yarn B, cast on 70 sts

☐ Row 1: (k1, p1) to end

☐ Row 2: (p1, k1) to end

☐ Row 3: (k1, p1) to end

☐ Row 4: (p1, k1) seven times, cast off three sts [one st on RH needle], (k1, p1) eight times, cast off three sts [one st on RH needle], (p1, k1) eight times, cast off three sts [one st on RH needle], (k1, p1) to end

☐ Row 5: \* patt to cast-off gap, turn, cast on three sts, rep from \* twice more, patt to end

☐ Row 6: (p1, k1) to end

☐ Row 7: (k1, p1) to end

\*\* Change to yarn A

☐ Work in st st for eight rows

Change to yarn B

☐ Work in st st for four rows

Change to yarn A

☐ Work in st st for two rows

Change to yarn B

☐ Work in st st for four rows

☐ Rep from \*\* once more

Change to yarn A

☐ Work in st st for eight rows

Change to yarn B

☐ Work in st st for two rows

☐ Cast off

## Panel 2

Using 4mm needles and yarn



jesse



B, cast on 35 sts

□ \*\* Work in st st for two rows

Change to yarn A

□ Work in st st for two rows \*\*

□ Rep from \*\* to \*\* until work meas same width as Panel 1 (approx 38cm)

□ Cast off

fabric. Press knitted rectangles and lay Panel 1 face down onto RS of fabric square with buttonhole band towards centre. Position Panel 2 overlapping the buttonhole band. Pin in place then machine stitch around outer edge with a 1.5cm seam allowance. Turn right way out then stitch three buttons to Panel 2. Insert cushion pad and fasten ■

### To make up

Cut a 38cm square of cotton

jesse (reverse)



“Envelope cushions are a great way to elevate a cushion cover opening and make the buttons and buttonholes part of the design”

LK DESIGNER AMANDA WALKER





## TYLER PATTERN Front and Back (alike)

Using 5mm needles and yarn A, cast on 45 sts  
☐ Work 52 rows in garter st  
☐ Cast off loosely

### To make up

Place Front and Back together and, using a smooth DK, stitch side seams, leaving a gap in one side for teapot handle and another on other side for spout. Work a line of running stitch 6cm from top edge, pull up tightly and fasten off. Tie a length of ribbon around top to finish

## SAM PATTERN

With 3.75mm needles and yarn C, cast on 66 sts  
☐ Row 1: (k1, p1) to end  
☐ Rep Row 1 six times more

to create ribbed band  
 Cut yarn C, change to yarn A and 5mm needles

- ☐ Work 30 rows in garter st
- ☐ Row 38: (k4, k2tog) 11 times. 55 sts
- ☐ Row 39: (k3, k2tog) 11 times. 44 sts
- ☐ Row 40: (k2, k2tog) 11 times. 33 sts
- ☐ Row 41: (k1, k2tog) 11 times. 22 sts
- ☐ Row 42: k2tog 11 times. 11 sts
- ☐ Cut a 30cm length of yarn C and thread through rem sts

### To make up

Use yarn C to stitch back seam of hat. To make a tassel, wind yarn A around two fingers 30 times, making sure the thin strands lie on top of one another in the centre of

the bundle. Tie a short length of yarn C around middle of bundle. Stitch to top of hat

## STEVIE PATTERN Mittens (make two)

With 3.75mm needles and yarn C, cast on 24 sts

- ☐ Row 1: (k1, p1) to end
- ☐ Rep Row 1 six times more to create ribbed band
- Cut yarn C, change to yarn A and 5mm needles
- ☐ Work 14 rows in garter st
- ☐ Row 22: (k4, k2tog) four times. 20 sts
- ☐ Row 39: (k3, k2tog) four times. 16 sts
- ☐ Row 40: (k2, k2tog) four times. 12 sts
- ☐ Row 41: (k1, k2tog) four times. 8 sts
- ☐ Row 42: k2tog four times. Four sts

- ☐ Cut a 20cm length of yarn C and thread through rem sts

### To make up

Use yarn C to stitch side seams of mittens

## knit wise

### Tangle-free tips

Due to the softness of the pompoms on Cookie, this yarn can be knitted as normal and does not require any special technique. Here are a few useful hints for working with this yarn:

- As the elongated bobbles are made up of several strands it is easy to split them so use blunt knitting needles and take care when working these stitches
- Count your stitches! The thin section of the yarn could be overlooked if next to a pompom on the needle so make sure you haven't missed one
- Larger needles will create a more open fabric but it is also easier to see the stitches. We recommend 5mm as a good size for getting started
- When joining in Cookie after working with a different yarn, as on our Jesse cushion, make the first stitch using the thin part of the yarn
- Change to a smooth yarn for sewing seams as this will give a stronger join





"This version of the ubiquitous tea cosy is quick and easy to make as it's created from two simple rectangles of tantalisingly textured knitting – every home should have one!"

LK DESIGNER **SUSIE JOHNS**



tyler

*let's shop!*

**Patons Smoothie DK**  
costs £2.35 per 100g  
(200m) ball from & Sew  
What, 01257 267438,  
[www.sewwhat.gb.com](http://www.sewwhat.gb.com)



**Sirdar Bonus  
Toytime DK** costs  
99p per 25g (70m)  
ball from Deramores,  
0845 519 4573,  
[www.deramores.com](http://www.deramores.com)



# learning curve

This issue is all about trying something new so we sent LK's Adrienne Chandler and Elaine Bennett out to broaden their knitty horizons

Every knitter relishes the chance to learn more about their favourite hobby, whether it's a new stitch pattern or a brand new technique. Books and the internet are great resources but nothing beats hands-on experience under the watchful eye of an expert teacher. Whether you want to learn how to knit socks, lace or try your hand at felting, spinning and dyeing, there are plenty of workshops throughout the country that can help you get started. Here are a few suggestions to tempt and inspire.



My first and second bobbins



Snowy Norwich

A Jacob sheep produces brown and white fleece

LK Deputy Editor Adrienne Chandler spent the day with Rebecca Bone and Chris Clark at Norfolk Yarn in Norwich where she learnt the traditional art of spinning



Wool Marketing Board. The fleeces had already been cleaned and sat in large bags waiting to be carded. This is the process of partially separating the fibres and ensuring they lie flat. I was handed two rectangular paddles with lots

of small wire teeth and shown how to brush the wool to thin out the fibres. The carded wool is then rolled into a sausage shape known as a rolag and is ready to be spun.

Chris' 30-years spinning experience clearly showed but I had a feeling it wouldn't be as easy as she made it look! I was using an Ashford Traveller wheel with a double treadle which is thought to be easier for beginners. I practiced the treadle motion to get to the wheel turning slowly and steadily in a clockwise direction and after watching Chris spin a fine thread I was eager to have a go. I soon found that co-ordination is key. While both feet are turning the

wheel, your left hand holds the fibres until they twist together then slides down the thread allowing the yarn to feed onto the bobbin. Your right hand is responsible for teasing out the rolag without holding it back or it will over-twist. I found it very tricky at first and in contrast to Chris' even yarn, mine was very lumpy.

After a mid-morning snack of homemade chocolate and walnut brownies, I was ready to go on. My main difficulty was keeping the wheel spinning slowly enough to do everything else, but as the morning went on I gradually improved. While Chris shared her wisdom, Rebecca set about spinning her own blend of baby alpaca and angora fibre taken from the rabbits she used to have as pets. Despite the weather, there was a steady flow of customers and I felt a little self-conscious as some of them stopped to watch. Refuelled by a lunch break, ►►



Chris carding fleece





Adrienne: "It looks like proper yarn and everything!"

more brownies and another perusal of the yarn-filled shelves, I got back to work and my second bobbin went much more smoothly. When it was filled, it was time to ply the two together to produce a complete yarn!

This time the wheel is turned anticlockwise while the left hand still grips the yarn and the other keeps the two bobbins apart to prevent a tangle. This was much

easier although it's still important not to over twist. I particularly liked when a brown part of Jacob fleece was plied against the white to create a lovely marled effect. The new yarn was then wound into a skein using a niddy nodd. After a hard day's work I had produced 70g of my very own chunky yarn and was very proud of my achievement."

Norfolk Yarn is an agent for Ashford spinning, weaving and dyeing supplies, and stocks everything you need to get started, as well as lots of gorgeous knitting yarns, patterns and notions. For workshop dates or to find out more, call 01603 417001 or go online at [www.norfolkyarn.com](http://www.norfolkyarn.com)

## feeling Inspired?

The following shops are hosting spinning workshops soon...

**The Handweavers Studio:**  
Holloway, London

**Sunday 30th January – learn to spin at this informative workshop, where you'll experience sorting fleece, carding, spinning and plying**  
Contact: 020 7272 1891,  
[www.handweavers.co.uk](http://www.handweavers.co.uk)

**Yarn On The Square: Ely, Cambridgeshire**  
**Saturday 12th February – try your hand at the age old craft of spinning with tutor Jayne Drinkwater**  
Contact: 01353 661024,  
[www.yarn-on-the-square.co.uk](http://www.yarn-on-the-square.co.uk)

**Cornish Wools: Penzance, Cornwall**  
Please get in touch for dates  
Contact: 01736 711288,  
[www.cornishwools.co.uk](http://www.cornishwools.co.uk)



Let's Knit Editorial Assistant Elaine Bennett headed off to Wibbling Wools in Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk, to take part in a moebius basket workshop. She explains what she learnt

"I arrived at Wibbling Wools on the day that the fun fair was in town. I squeezed past the giant Ferris wheel and into the warmth of the cosy shop. The day's workshop was run by tutor Gillian Fulton and hosted in the brightly painted upper room of the shop which was full of gorgeous knitted and crocheted items made in previous classes.

Gillian first explained to us what a moebius strip is; a band with only one continuous side. To help us grasp the concept we took a strip of paper, gave it a half-twist and then joined the ends of the strip together to form a loop. This shape was to be the basis of the basket we would knit in the class.





We each chose a circular needle and two balls of Rico Creative Poems Aran to work with and began to create our moebius by casting on using a very original method which involved placing the slip knot in the centre of the cable of the circular needle and then curling the cable round to make a complete circle. The yarn was then passed under and over the cable until 56 stitches had been cast on in a 'zig-zag' manner across the double cable. This was quite fiddly but with Gillian's and my fellow participants' help I eventually cast on the right number of stitches.

The next part of the basket involved using a piece of waste yarn to make the opening. Now we had all managed the tricky cast on, the members of the group got to know one another and had a good knit and natter session. We worked an i-cord around the rim of the work to create a pretty edge for the handle and the brim and then began the nerve-wracking process of picking up the stitches held by the waste yarn and then removing the spare yarn to reveal the opening of the basket.

After all that hard work we were ready for lunch and all enjoyed a gorgeous bowl of homemade soup, crusty bread and cheese. Everyone commented on how lovely it was to spend a day relaxing with our hobby and enjoying good food and nice company. We spent the rest of the afternoon knitting the body of our baskets and discussing the other projects we were currently working on and our favourite yarns and patterns.

As we had knitted our baskets in 100% wool, they were perfect for felting so after finishing my basket and casting off, I put it in the washing machine at home and crossed my fingers. A short while later it was ready to come out and with a little trepidation I opened the machine. To my delight it had worked and here is my finished moebius basket in all its glory!



Tutor Gillian helps us with casting on



## What I learnt:

- ☐ knitting with circular needles
- ☐ a new cast on method
- ☐ knitting i-cord
- ☐ felting

For more information about Wibbling Wools and its forthcoming workshops, ring 01284 749555 or visit [www.wibblingwools.co.uk](http://www.wibblingwools.co.uk)

Elaine deep in concentration!



Our yummy lunch!



## feeling Inspired?

The following shops are hosting knitting, crochet and dyeing workshops soon...

### Spin a Yarn: Bovey Tracey, Devon

Thursday 3rd February – join tutor Alison Crowther-Smith and learn to knit a beautiful Shimmer Stole in Rowan Kidsilk Haze and Rowan Shimmer  
Contact: 01626 836203,  
[www.spinayarndevon.co.uk](http://www.spinayarndevon.co.uk)

Purl: Brighton, East Sussex  
Saturday 19th February – become a sock knitting expert with the expert guidance of Emma Brant  
Contact: 01273 248642,  
[www.purl-brighton.co.uk](http://www.purl-brighton.co.uk)

The Knitting Hut: Woburn Sands, Buckinghamshire  
Wednesday 16th February – learn how to knit a lacy shawl involving different stitches and edgings  
Contact: 01908 586244,  
[www.theknittinghut.co.uk](http://www.theknittinghut.co.uk)

**MORE! Simply ring for details**

The Knitting Parlour: Great Malvern, Worcestershire  
Contact: 01684 892079,  
[www.theknittingparlour.co.uk](http://www.theknittingparlour.co.uk)

The Knit Studio: Newcastle upon Tyne, Tyne and Wear  
Contact: 01913 408478,  
[www.theknitstudio.co.uk](http://www.theknitstudio.co.uk)

The Life Craft: Glasgow, Scotland  
Contact: 0141 334 2722,  
[www.thelifecraft.co.uk](http://www.thelifecraft.co.uk)

Spun: Huddersfield, Yorkshire  
Contact: 07894 016825,  
[www.spunshop.co.uk](http://www.spunshop.co.uk)

Create & Knit: Breedon on the Hill, Derbyshire  
Contact: 07594 437948,  
[www.createandknit.co.uk](http://www.createandknit.co.uk)

DT Craft & Design: Sale, Cheshire  
Contact: 0161 718 3818,  
[www.dtcrafts.co.uk](http://www.dtcrafts.co.uk)



# Masterclass

## More and more local yarn stores around the country are opening their doors for classes and workshops.

So if you fancy learning a new skill this year, or even just spending some time with like minded knitters, check out our guide to some of the best workshops available across the UK.

### The Fluff-a-torium

Set amidst the Surrey countryside in the heart of Dorking, The Fluff-a-torium offers relaxed one day workshops in Knitting and Crochet. Course attendees receive a 10% discount in the shop on the day of their course and courses include all materials, refreshments, plus afternoon tea and cake! Also specialising in Feltmaking courses, The Fluff-a-torium runs children's craft workshops during the holidays and will soon be running Spinning courses too. The colourful shop stocks a multitude of goodies! **Tel: 01306 898144, Email: gill@gilliangladrag.co.uk or visit [www.gilliangladrag.co.uk](http://www.gilliangladrag.co.uk)**



### The Knitting Parlour

The Knitting Parlour, Malvern, run workshops all year long. All of their classes take place in the shop and include refreshments, a buffet lunch, and materials where required. They also give a 10% discount on any purchases made on the day. Most of their workshops are run through Rowan, although this year they have started running independent sewing workshops. Courses scheduled for the beginning of next year include fairisle, crochet, professional finishing, and a beginners guide to sewing clothes. **For a full schedule, please visit [www.theknittingparlour.co.uk](http://www.theknittingparlour.co.uk), or call 01684 892079.**



### Spin a yarn

Spin A Yarn, Devon, has an exciting selection of workshops available for spring. Claire Crompton is teaching 12 workshops including Modular Knitting and, due to the huge demand, four dates for Professional

Finishing Techniques. Let's Knit favourite, Annikken Allis, is teaching Sock and Lace Knitting, while Alison Crowther Smith is inspiring all with two exciting new project workshops; the Glow Scarf and the Shimmer scarf. Debbie Abrahams is at Spin a Yarn for the first time teaching Throws and Cushions. As well as courses in knitting & crochet, they also provide workshops in Spinning, peg looming, felting, willow-working and needle-punch felting. **For full details and to book your place, please visit [www.spinayarndevon.co.uk](http://www.spinayarndevon.co.uk), or call 01626 836203.**



### Norfolk Yarn

Norfolk Yarn is a friendly, family business, run by Rebecca and her mum, Christine. They offer an extensive range of beautiful yarns and equipment for knitting, spinning and felting. Workshops are available every month for spinning, and they run regular classes for beginners crochet and various knitting techniques, such as sock knitting. They also cater for special groups or topic request courses by arrangement. Their classes offer a subject introduction, practical experience and supply of all materials and equipment for the day. Refreshments are provided throughout the day. **To join in the fun of working with new and exciting yarns and fibres, please visit their website [www.norfolkyarn.co.uk](http://www.norfolkyarn.co.uk) email on [info@norfolkyarn.co.uk](mailto:info@norfolkyarn.co.uk) or phone on 01603 417001 for details.**



### Cornish wools

Asford spinning wheels, weaving looms, carders and drop spindles together with a range of felting needles, rovings and bats are all available from Cornish Wools. They are also offering a schedule of Textile Workshops from February onwards through 2011. The courses will be held in the coastal village of Perranuthnoe near Penzance, Cornwall. Workshops will cover a variety of skills such as knitting, crochet, weaving, spinning, rug making and felting and will cover aspects of these and lots of other crafts, giving the chance to learn something new or improve on your skills. **Contact them for full details on 01736 711288 or email [cornishwools@live.co.uk](mailto:cornishwools@live.co.uk) or visit [www.cornishwools.co.uk](http://www.cornishwools.co.uk)**

### Wibbling Wools



Set in the heart of historic Bury St Edmunds, Wibbling Wools is a two storey, yarn-lovers haven, where the top floor is set aside for workshops on knitting, crochet, and anything else that customers are interested in. Courses already scheduled for the New Year include "Get to Grips with Ganseys" on 15th January, "Luxurious Latvian Mittens" on 22nd January and "Knitting Lace: Sockettes" on 5th February. The cost of the classes include lunch, refreshments and all materials. **For more details and scheduling visit their website [www.wibblingwools.co.uk](http://www.wibblingwools.co.uk) or call 01284 749555**

### Purl Brighton

Purl is a beautiful independent yarn shop in Brighton. As well as stocking an extensive selection of quality wools, books and patterns, Purl also host various weekend workshops for adults and after school craft sessions for children. Scheduled for the beginning of next year are the following workshops: Beginners Crochet and Afgan Squares, Sock workshop and Finishing techniques with Emma Brant, Vintage Toy Making with Cassie Heighton, as well as courses on sweater design, cable and lace knitting. **For full details and complete scheduling, please visit their website [www.purl-brighton.co.uk](http://www.purl-brighton.co.uk) or call 01273 248642.**







## The Life craft

The Life Craft offer a wide range of classes in their Glasgow store, for children and beginners, right up to experts. From 'Learning to Knit' and 'Make Your Own Tote Bag', right up to screen printing, jewellery making and one off classes like 'Design Your Own Tattoo', they cater for every craft you can think of. And if you find something they don't teach just let them know and they'll track down an experienced tutor! **For full details of their classes and to book your place, visit their website [www.thelifecraft.co.uk](http://www.thelifecraft.co.uk) or call 0141 334 2722**

## The Knit Studio

The Knit Studio is a unique knitting destination in the heart of Newcastle upon Tyne where you can learn new skills in a beautiful environment. From Fair Isle to Freeform there's a workshop for every one. With more dates to be confirmed later in the year, here are a few to tempt you ... Mon 28/2 - Finishing Techniques with Anne Makepeace, Mon 7/3 - Fairisle & Colour with Emma King, Sun 20/3 - Learn to Crochet with Anne Makepeace, Sun 27/3 - Let's Knit Socks with Anne Makepeace. **Contact them by email at [theknitstudio@gmail.com](mailto:theknitstudio@gmail.com) or visit [www.theknitstudio.co.uk](http://www.theknitstudio.co.uk)**



## Yarn on the square

When Yarn on the Square first opened one of the main priorities was to provide a learning space where needle women could gather to share knowledge and to try new experiences. Over the past year the range of classes and workshops has steadily increased and proved to be very popular. Classes start with the basics in knitting and crochet, and then cover such diverse subjects as felting, intarsia and spinning. Both Christine and Ginette teach classes and are always on the lookout for people who can teach new skills using yarn. Some of the latest classes they offer are in freeform and 3 dimensional crochet or the art of tatting. **For more information, please visit their website [www.yarn-on-the-square.co.uk](http://www.yarn-on-the-square.co.uk) or call 01353 661024**

## Create and Knit

Those that want to touch up on their skills or pick up a new craft can choose a crochet workshop suited to them at the shop in Breedon on the Hill. Beginner's workshops and project workshops are available, suiting all skill levels. Led by Pauline Fitzpatrick all materials are provided and you'll be able to create something beautiful. Space is limited so book early to avoid disappointment! **[info@createandknit.co.uk](mailto:info@createandknit.co.uk) [www.createandknit.co.uk](http://www.createandknit.co.uk)**



## Spun

In Huddersfield's Byram Arcade there is a new yarn shop offering wonderful workshops! There's spinning, dyeing, finishing techniques and much more!



All workshops take place in their workshop room, a space designed for workshop fun, and with all materials provided for the courses, all you have to do is pick which one you want to join in with! Courses that are coming up with places:

Jan 15th – Rag Rugging  
Jan 22nd – Wet Felting  
Feb 26th – Learn to Crochet  
March 19th – How to Knit Socks  
**Contact them by calling 07894016825 or emailing at [lydia@spunshop.co.uk](mailto:lydia@spunshop.co.uk) or see full details on their website [www.spunshop.co.uk](http://www.spunshop.co.uk)**



## The Knitting hut

Based in the pretty town of Woburn Sands, Buckinghamshire, The Knitting Hut is jammed full of every kind of yarn you could imagine, and offers knitters near and far something a little unusual. They have a fantastic range of workshops for 2011, including full and half day courses. Techniques covered include entrelac, beginners and advanced crochet as well as lace, sock and cable knitting. **For a full schedule and to reserve your place, visit [www.theknittinghut.co.uk](http://www.theknittinghut.co.uk) or call 01908 586244.**



## The Handweavers studio

A single day's workshop at the Handweavers Studio will give you a great grounding in the basics of spinning. You'll cover all the stages from fleece sorting and carding to spindle and wheel spinning and plying. You'll also discuss techniques for creating your own effect and novelty yarns. So whether you want to go back to nature and spin from your own fleece or add a twist to your knitting with your very own designer yarns, you'll get hands-on instruction on all the basic techniques you need. Workshops are held approximately six times a year; the first dates in 2011 are Sunday 30 January and Tuesday 22 March. **More details are on the Handweavers Studio website, [www.handweavers.co.uk](http://www.handweavers.co.uk)**

## DT Craft and Design

Debbie's fun, friendly workshops include: Dyeing with Kool Aid, acid and procion dyes, indigo & woad dyeing, natural dyeing, handknitting, crochet and learning to design. Debbie runs courses in her home town of Sale, Cheshire. She also teaches at some lovely yarn shops, or enjoy knitting break at the Westcliffe Hotel in Blackpool. Debbie will be teaching an in-depth week-long dyeing course in Edinburgh in August. If you are a shop owner, group or college and would be interested in running workshops, contact Debbie for further details. For a party with a difference, celebrate with a knitting, crochet or party. Parties can be based around a project (wedding favours, baby gifts, Christmas gifts etc.), learning new techniques or just enjoying being creative! **Call Debbie or 0161 718 3818 or visit [www.dtcrafts.co.uk](http://www.dtcrafts.co.uk) for more information.**







# see the light

Brighten your world with Edison, our trendy lampshade cover by Lucinda Ganderton

**K**nitted lampshades have been a big trend in the interiors world this season. Don't believe us? Take a look at our LK Loves panel below and see some of the beauties for yourself! Lucinda Ganderton has designed this gorgeous Edison lampshade cover so that you can recreate the look at home for a fraction of the price. In fact, it uses less than 50 grams of yarn. If you'd prefer a starker contrast between the knitted fabric and the pale lampshade, simply choose a richer yarn shade and don't forget to always use a bulb of the wattage recommended by the lamp manufacturer.

## EDISON PATTERN Lampshade

Using 4mm needles cast on 29 sts  
☐ Row 1: k1, (yfwd, sl 1, k2tog, pssso, yfwd, k3) four

times, yfwd, sl 1, k2tog, pssso, yfwd, k1  
☐ Row 2: p  
☐ Rows 3-6: rep Rows 1-2 twice  
☐ Row 7: k4, (yfwd, sl 1,

k2tog, pssso, yfwd, k3) four times, k1

☐ Row 8: p

☐ Rows 9-14: rep Rows 7-8 three times

These 14 rows form patt

☐ Rep patt seven times

☐ Repeat Rows 1-6

☐ Cast off

## To make up

Slip stitch cast-on and cast-off edges tog to make cylinder. Slip over lampshade, matching up the two seams. Pin side edges of knitting to top and bottom edges of shade, making sure that patt lies straight. Stitch in place using a double length of matching thread. Use a strong needle and thimble to protect your finger as you sew outside row of sts to fabric covered wire frame



LK DESIGNER LUCINDA GANDERTON

"Rowan Pima Cotton comes in a wonderful range of colours, so you're bound to find the perfect yarn to match your interior scheme"

## knit knowledge

### Measurements & sizes

To fit: circular lampshade, 15cm diameter, 14cm depth

### Knit kit

**Yarn:** Rowan Pima Cotton DK, shade 058 Millet, one 50g ball

**Needles:** 4mm

**Tapestry needle**

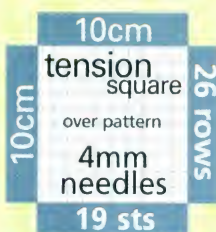
**Sewing needle**

**Sewing thread,** to match yarn

**Dressmaker's pins**

**Thimble**

**Lampshade:** 14cm deep x 15cm diameter



### About the yarn

Made from 100% cotton, **Rowan Pima Cotton DK** derives its name from the Pima Native Americans, the first group to cultivate this useful fibre. Choose from 16 shades, including a bright pink and green.

### Need an Alternative?

**Cygnnet Essentially Cotton Blend DK** is a great value mix of 60% cotton and 40% acrylic. Machine washable at 40°C, it comes in eight subtle shades, including elegantly neutral shade 2860 Linen.

For abbreviations see page 86

## LK LIVES

Pudelskern Granny Light Pendant, £215 (small), £475 (large), Aria, 020 7704 6222, [www.ariashop.co.uk](http://www.ariashop.co.uk)



Northern Lighting Seed LED Wall Lamp, £183, Made in Design, 020 7692 4001, [www.madeindesign.co.uk](http://www.madeindesign.co.uk)

Ose Design Knitted Table Lamp, £76 (small), £80 (large), Radiance Lighting, 01422 845764, [www.radiance-lighting.co.uk](http://www.radiance-lighting.co.uk)



## let's shop!

**Rowan Pima Cotton DK** costs £5.35 per 50g (114m) ball from Laughing Hens, 01829 740903, [www.laughinghens.com](http://www.laughinghens.com)  
**LK readers can get a 10% discount by quoting LK39**



**Cygnnet Essentially Cotton Blend DK** costs £1.95 per 50g (130m) ball from Modern Knitting, 01279 771153, [www.modern-knitting.co.uk](http://www.modern-knitting.co.uk)

**John Lewis Alisa Table Lamp**, £15, John Lewis, 0845 604 9049, [www.johnlewis.com](http://www.johnlewis.com)



## knit wise

### Easy peasy

If you're a beginner to lace, this is a good project to start with as it is a simple rectangle with no shaping involved. As long as you can knit and purl already, all you need to learn is the following four techniques:

- yfwd – yarn forward: wrap yarn anti-clockwise once around RH needle
- sl 1 – slip one: insert the RH needle into the first st on the LH needle, then slide it off LH needle
- k2tog – knit two together: insert RH needle into first two sts on LH needle and k them together
- pssso – pass slipped stitch over: insert LH needle in st that you have slipped off RH needle (this will be the second st on the RH needle), pass slipped st over k st and off needle

Designer  
style at an  
affordable  
price



# warm heart

Wrap your family up in love with our snuggly Beth blanket by Julie Ferguson

**K**nitted entirely in soft Artesano Superwash Merino, Beth by Julie Ferguson is a great long-term project to work on this winter and the perfect introduction to a variety of stitches and techniques like eyelets, motifs and colourwork. Although it looks large, Beth is actually a really portable project because you knit the 30 squares individually before sewing them all together. We've chosen pretty lilac and cream shades but this yarn also comes in vivid turquoises and pinks if that's more your style.


## knit wise

### Blocks away

You may find that the 30 squares you knit for this blanket do not all end up exactly the same size. Your final blanket will look neater if you lightly block the squares before sewing them together. This is really simple to do. Pin the four corners of the square to a foam board or blanket and use a ruler to ensure each side is straight and 15cm in length. You may need extra pins to ensure the edges are straight. Next, lightly spray each square with a spray bottle so that the square is damp but not soaking. Now simply leave your square to dry. Once dry, you should now find that all your pieces are a uniform size. This extra step may require patience but will really give your work that professional finish.

### Borders

When all squares have been joined together, use 4mm needles and yarn A to pick up and k 145 sts evenly down right side  
☐ Work 11 rows in moss st  
☐ Cast off loosely  
 Complete Left side border to match

With RS facing, use 4mm needles and yarn A to pick up and k 165 sts evenly across top edge including Left and Right border.  
 Work as Right/Left border  
 Complete bottom border to match 



LK DESIGNER JULIE FERGUSON

"The yarn used in Beth is very soft, easy to work with and, best of all, machine washable – perfect for busy mums!"

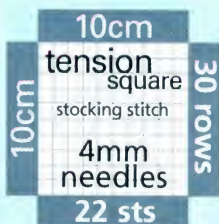
## knit knowledge

### Measurements & sizes

**Beth:** 85cm x 95 cm approx

### Knit kit

**Yarn:** Artesano Superwash Merino, (A) shade SFN21 Biscuit, five 50g balls, (B) shade 5769 Baby Lavender, four 50g balls, (C) shade SFN10 Cream, four 50g balls  
**Needles:** 4mm



### About the Yarn

**Artesano Superwash Merino** is made of 100% merino and can be machine washed at 30°C as well as tumble dried, making it perfect for the wear and tear of family life. Choose from 25 shades.

### Need an alternative?

If you'd like to make your blanket even warmer and more luxurious why not opt for **Artesano Alpaca DK**. This 100% alpaca yarn knits up to the same tension and comes in a range of 20 beautifully vibrant shades and one marled option. Alpaca yarn is hypoallergenic so perfect for children with wool allergies.

For abbreviations see page 86

## BETH PATTERN Squares

**NOTE:** work 30 squares in total, five each of all six designs. Beginning and end of each Square is knitted in same way but follow individual Charts (p52) for centre panel of each design. For Charts involving more than one colour, carry yarn not in use loosely across back of work Using 4mm needles and appropriate colour as shown in Chart, cast on 31 sts  
☐ Work eight rows in moss st as folls: \* k1, p1, rep from \* to last st, k1  
☐ Working first four sts and last four sts of each row as moss stitch follow Chart for each design  
☐ Work eight rows in moss st  
☐ Cast off loosely kwise

### To make up

Block each square to approx 15cm (see Knit wise panel), sew together following placement chart on page 52.





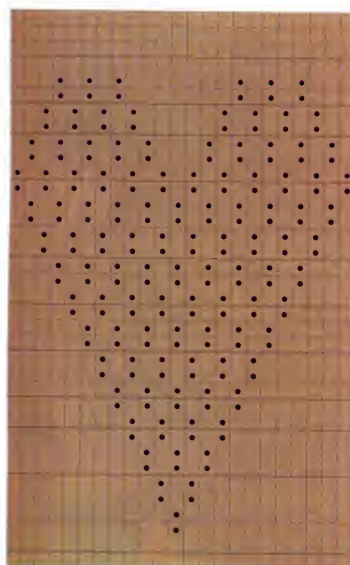
Portable  
project in  
merino  
yarn



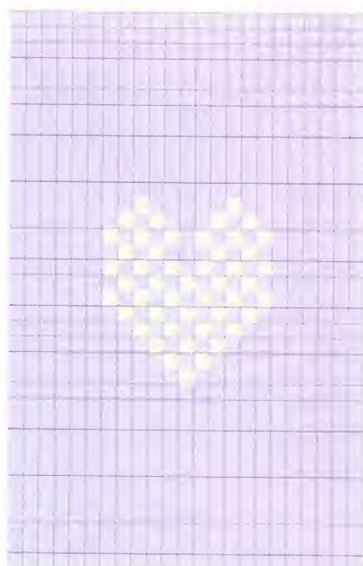


## let's shop!

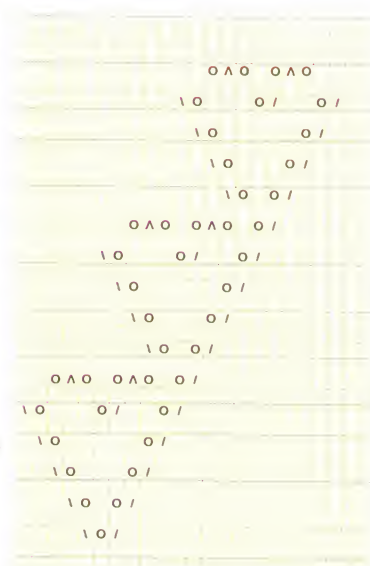
For stockists of **Artesano Superwash Merino** (50g, 112m) and **Artesano Alpaca DK** (50g, 100m) see our stockist guide on the following page.



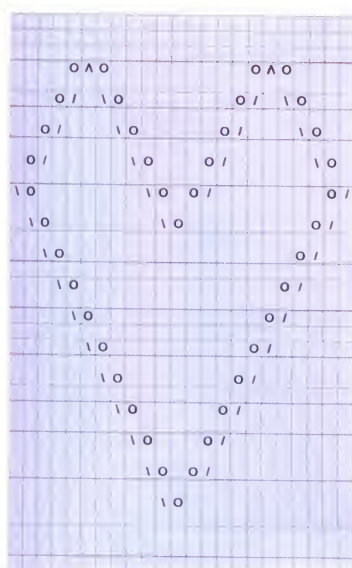
Square A



Square B



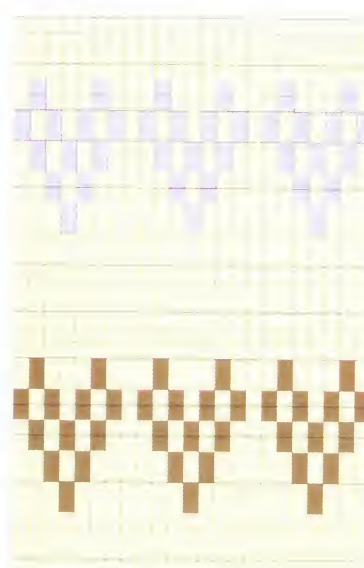
Square C



Square D



Square E



Square F

## Key

- : k on RS, p on WS
- : p on WS, k on RS
- / : k2tog
- \ : ssk
- O : yfwd
- Λ : sl 1, k2tog, pssso
- : yarn A
- : yarn B
- : yarn C

A	B	C	D	E
E	D	F	B	A
F	B	A	E	C
B	C	F	D	A
D	E	B	C	F
C	A	F	D	E

Placement of squares



# smock the week

exclusive  
to LK!

Use this interesting technique to create Philippa, a fabulously textured scarf from Jane Burns

**I**t can be tricky combining self-striping yarns with textured stitch patterns as you don't want to detract from the detailed design, but this scarf achieves the perfect balance. The gradual stripe of the yarn fades from berry to plum – both warming shades for the winter – and the smocked pattern adds a whole new dimension. The technique involves knitting between the sixth and seventh stitches on the LH needle before working the previous stitches. This creates a wrapped effect, which transforms a plain ribbed scarf into a timeless accessory.

## PHILIPPA PATTERN

Using 5mm needles, cast on 54 sts

Work in rib as folls:

☐ Row 1: (k2, p2) 13 times, k2

☐ Row 2: (p2, k2) 13 times, k2

times, p2

☐ Rep Rows 1 and 2 twice more

Beg Smock patt as folls:

☐ Row 1: k2, p2 (smock, p2) six times, k2

☐ Row 2: (p2, k2) 13 times, p2

☐ Row 3: (k2, p2) 13 times, k2

☐ Row 4: (p2, k2) 13 times, p2

☐ Row 5: (k2, p2) twice, (smock, p2) five times, k2, p2, k2

☐ Row 6: (p2, k2) 13 times, p2

☐ Row 7: (k2, p2) 13 times, k2

☐ Row 8: (p2, k2) 13 times, p2

☐ Rep Rows 1-8 40 times

Work in rib as folls:

☐ Next row: (k2, p2) 13 times, k2

☐ Next row: (p2, k2) 13 times, p2

☐ Rep last two rows twice more

☐ Cast off in rib

**To make up**

Weave in ends 

Textured  
knit from  
just one  
ball!

## knit knowledge

### Measurements & sizes

**Philippa:** 148cm long x 12cm wide (unstretched)

### Knit kit

**Yarn:** Schoppel Wolle Zauberball, shade 1872 Blackberry, one 100g ball

**Needles:** 5mm

**Tapestry needle**

### About the Yarn

**Schoppel Wolle Zauberball** is a 4ply yarn that has a lovely graduating stripe when knitted. It comprises 75% wool and 25% nylon so is soft yet strong, and machine washable at 40°C.

### Need an Alternative?

**Regia Hand-dye Effect** is a similar yarn also comprising 75% wool and 25% nylon. It has a subtle colour change and comes in 12 colourways, try shade 6558 Jasper for a close match to this project.

### Special Abbreviations

**Smock:** place tip of RH needle between sixth and seventh st on LH needle, wrap yarn around RH needle and pull st through to the front of work, place this st on tip of LH needle, k2tog, k1, p2, k2

For abbreviations see page 86

Coat, £34.99, TK Maxx





"This scarf has a loose knitted fabric because it is made using a 4ply yarn and worked on 5mm needles. Experiment with other sizes to see the different effects"

LK DEPUTY EDITOR ADRIENNE CHANDLER

## knit wise

### Happy ending

To ensure a neat finish, cast off in the k2, p2 rib pattern. Cast off the first two k stitches as normal, then p the next stitch. Take the yarn to the back between the needles and pass the first st worked on the RH needle over the second and off the end of needle. Continue to cast off in pattern, remembering that the yarn should be at the back of the work when passing stitches over.

## k2tog



**1** Insert the right needle into the front loops of next two stitches on the left needle. Then wrap the yarn anticlockwise around the tip and knit both stitches at the same time.

## let's shop

**Schoppel Wolle**  
Zauberball costs £9 per 100g (420m) ball from Brownberry Yarns, 01257 471349, [www.brownberryyarns.co.uk](http://www.brownberryyarns.co.uk)



**Regia Hand-dye Effect**  
costs £7.90 per 100g (420m) ball from Addicted 2 Knitting, 01865 820808, [www.addicted2knitting.co.uk](http://www.addicted2knitting.co.uk)



# ABAKHAN

## FABRICS, HOBBY & HOME

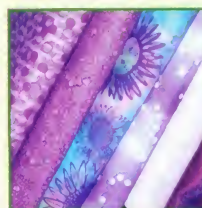
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# high society

Stunning  
sock yarn  
shawl

Knitted in sparkling wine-coloured yarn, Mae is a beautiful accessory for any big occasion

## MAE PATTERN

**NOTE:** cast-on edge forms scalloped edges of shawl. If edge is too tight, shawl won't block to full measurements. Using 4mm needles, cast on 267 sts

☐ Foundation row: p

## Written instructions

☐ Row 1: s2kpo, k10, yfwd, (k5, skpo, k5, yfwd) nine times, k11, s2kpo, k11, (yfwd, k5, k2tog, k5) nine times, yfwd, k10, s2kpo. 263 sts

☐ Row 2 and all WS rows: p

☐ Row 3: k2tog, k10, yfwd, (k4, s2kpo, k4, yfwd, k1, yfwd) nine times, k8, skpo, s2kpo, k2tog, k8, (yfwd, k1, yfwd, k4, s2kpo, k4) nine times, yfwd, k10, skpo. 259sts

☐ Row 5: k2tog, k10, yfwd, (k3, s2kpo, k3, yfwd, k3, yfwd) nine times, k6, skpo, s2kpo, k2tog, k6, (yfwd, k3, yfwd, k3, s2kpo, k3) nine times, yfwd, k10, skpo. 255 sts

☐ Row 7: k2tog, k10, yfwd, (k2, s2kpo, k2, yfwd, k5, yfwd) nine times, k4, skpo, s2kpo, k2tog, k4, (yfwd, k5, yfwd, k2, s2kpo, k2) nine times, yfwd, k10, skpo. 251 sts

☐ Row 9: k2tog, k10, yfwd, (k1, s2kpo, k1, yfwd, k7, yfwd) nine times, k2, skpo, s2kpo, k2tog, k2, (yfwd, k7, yfwd, k1, s2kpo, k1) nine times, yfwd, k10, skpo. 247 sts

☐ Row 11: k2tog, k10, yfwd, (s2kpo, yfwd, k9, yfwd) nine times, skpo, s2kpo,

## knit knowledge

### Measurements & sizes

**Size:** approx 106cm wide x 53cm deep

**Bottom edge:** 130cm

### Knit kit

**Yarn:** Fyberspates Sterling Silver Sparkle Sock Yarn, one 100g hank  
**Needles:** 4mm, circular  
Stitch markers

### About the Yarn

**Fyberspates Sterling Silver Sparkle Sock Yarn** comprises 63% superwash merino, 20% silk, 15% nylon and 2% sterling silver. The silver is in the form of small strands throughout the yarn which give it a lovely shimmering finish. The yarn is machine washable but as it has been dyed by hand, wash separately the first time.

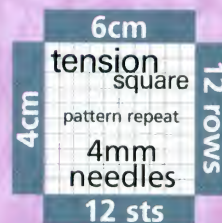
### Need an Alternative?

For a different effect, try a variegated 4ply yarn such as **Regia Extra Twist Merino**. This sock yarn is made of 76% new wool and 24% polyamide which gives an added strength for everyday use. It can be machine washed and tumble dried and comes in six shades.

### Special abbreviations

**S2kpo:** slip two sts kwise, k1, pass both slipped sts over

For abbreviations see page 86





## knit wise

### Knit by numbers

The boxed numbers shown on the chart overleaf indicate the number of knit stitches to be worked in that section. For example, when you have to work five stitches, the number 5 is shown on the chart to save you counting out the individual boxes. However, if you prefer to count the boxes, just ignore the extra numbers.

k2tog, (yfwd, k9, yfwd, s2kpo) nine times, yfwd, k10, skpo. 243 sts

□ Row 13: s2kpo, k4, yfwd, (k5, skpo, k5, yfwd) nine times, k5, s2kpo, k5, (yfwd, k5, k2tog, k5) nine times, yfwd, k4, s2kpo. 239 sts

□ Row 15: k2tog, k4, yfwd, (k4, s2kpo, k4, yfwd, k1, yfwd) eight times, k4, s2kpo, k4, yfwd, k5, s2kpo, k5, yfwd, k4, s2kpo, k4, (yfwd, k1, yfwd, k4, s2kpo, k4) eight times, yfwd, k4, skpo. 235 sts

□ Row 17: k2tog, k4, yfwd, (k3, s2kpo, k3, yfwd, k3, yfwd) eight times, k3, s2kpo, k3, yfwd, k5, s2kpo, k5, yfwd, k3, s2kpo, k3, (yfwd, k3, yfwd, k3, s2kpo, k3) eight times, yfwd, k4, skpo. 231 sts

□ Row 19: k2tog, k4, yfwd, (k2, s2kpo, k2, yfwd, k5, yfwd) eight times, k2, s2kpo, k2, yfwd, k5, s2kpo, k5, yfwd, k2, s2kpo, k2, (yfwd, k5, yfwd, k2, s2kpo, k2) eight times, yfwd, k4, skpo. 227 sts

□ Row 21: k2tog, k4, yfwd, (k1, s2kpo, k1, yfwd, k7, yfwd) eight times, k1, s2kpo, k1, yfwd, k5, s2kpo, k5, yfwd, k1, s2kpo, k1, (yfwd, k7, yfwd, k1, s2kpo, k1) eight times, yfwd, k4, skpo. 223 sts

□ Row 23: k2tog, k4, yfwd,

(s2kpo, yfwd, k9, yfwd) eight times, s2kpo, yfwd, k5, s2kpo, k5, yfwd, s2kpo, (yfwd, k9, yfwd, s2kpo) eight times, yfwd, k4, skpo. 219 sts

□ Rows 25-38: as Rows 1-14, rep each bracket section seven times only

□ Rows 39-48: as Rows 15-24 rep each bracket section six times only. 171 sts

□ Rows 49-62: as Rows 1-14 rep each bracket section five times only

□ Rows 63-72: as Rows 15-24 rep each bracket section four times only. 123 sts

□ Rows 73-86: as Rows 1-14 rep each bracket section three times only

□ Rows 87-96: as Rows 15-24 rep each bracket section two times only. 75 sts

□ Rows 97-110: as Rows 1-14 rep each bracket section once only

□ Rows 111-120: as Rows 15-24 but omit each bracket section. 27 sts

□ Row 121: k2tog, k10, s2kpo, k10, skpo. 23 sts

□ Row 123: k2tog, k8, s2kpo, k8, skpo. 19 sts

□ Row 125: k2tog, k6, s2kpo, k6, skpo. 15 sts

□ Row 127: k2tog, k4, s2kpo, k4, skpo. 11 sts >>



"This pattern is suitable for beginners as it features a 12-stitch pattern that is repeated across the width of the shawl, making mistakes easy to spot"

LK DEPUTY EDITOR ADRIENNE CHANDLER





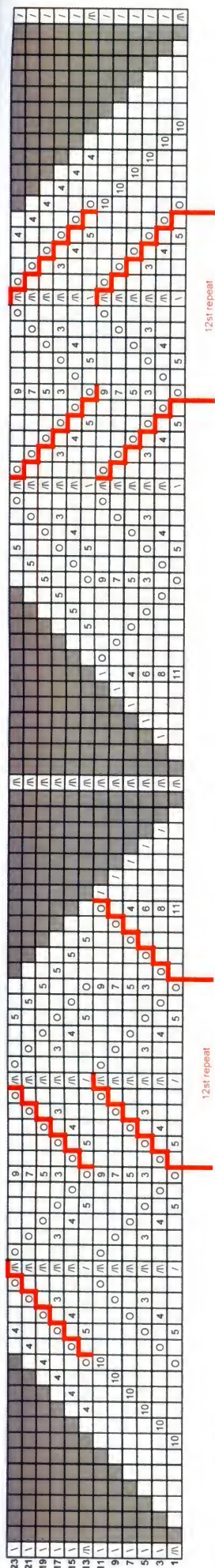
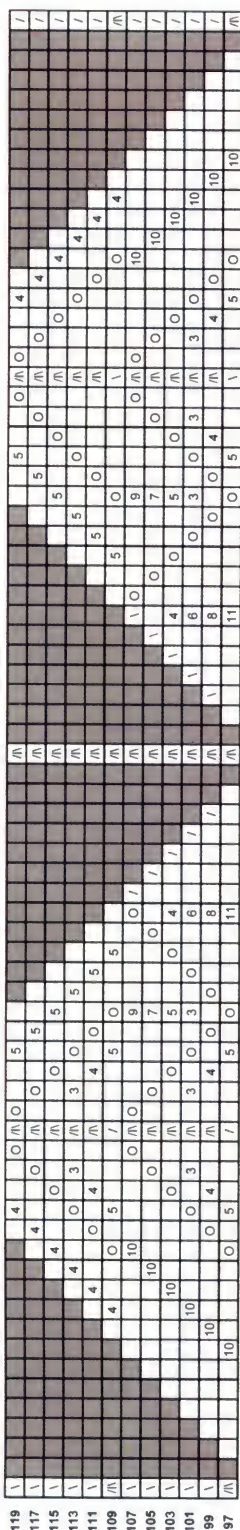


Chart B



## Key

- k2tog
- skpo
- s2kpo
- yfwd
- no stitch
- 5 indicates number of k sts in that section



- ☐ Row 129: (k2tog) twice, s2kpo, (skpo) twice. Five sts
- ☐ Row 130 (WS): p2tog, p1, p2tog. Three sts
- ☐ Break yarn and pull tail through rem sts to fasten off
- ☐ Weave in ends and block to measurements

## Chart instructions

- ☐ Rows 1: work Row 1 of Chart A, rep each red section eight times
- ☐ Row 2 and all WS rows: p (NOTE: these are not shown on Chart)
- ☐ Row 3-24: work from

Chart A, rep each red section eight times. 219 sts

☐ Rows 25-48: as Rows 1-24 rep each red section six times only. 171 sts

☐ Rows 49-72: as Rows 1-24 rep each red section four times only. 123 sts

☐ Rows 73-96: as Rows 1-24 rep each red section two times only. 75 sts

☐ Rows 97-120: work 12 rows of Chart B. 27 sts

☐ Rows 121-129: work five rows of Chart C. Five sts

☐ Row 130 (WS): p2tog, p1, p2tog. Three sts

- ☐ Break yarn and thread tail through rem sts to fasten off
- ☐ Weave in ends and block to measurements

let's shop!

**Fyberspates Sparkle Sock Yarn** costs £16 per 100g (380m) skein from Fyberspates, [www.fyberspates.com](http://www.fyberspates.com)  
**Get 10% off this yarn** by quoting 'Let's Knit' when ordering

**Regia Extra Twist Merino Color** costs £4.30 per 50g (210m) ball from Deramores, 0845 519 4573, [www.deramores.com](http://www.deramores.com)

Chart C





# hello dolly

Jane Burns' sweetie-coloured cardy is perfect for little girls and the cute doll embellishment is a delightful finishing touch

**K**nitted in gorgeous blue, pink and lilac shades, our Polly cardigan is a fun addition to any little girl's wardrobe. The appliqué doll motif is cut from felt and cotton fabric, stiffened and fixed with iron-on interfacing. A mock-picot edge has been created by making eyelets in the bottom edge and cuff sections and folding the fabric in half to give a decorative finish.

## knit knowledge

### Measurements & sizes

<b>To fit (yrs):</b>	2-3	(3-4,	5-6,	7-8)
<b>To fit chest (cm):</b>	61	(66,	71,	75)
<b>Actual chest (cm):</b>	68	(74,	79.5,	85)
<b>Sleeve length (cm):</b>	24	(27,	28,	31)
<b>Length to shoulder (cm):</b>	37.5	(41.5,	45.5,	48.5)

### Knit kit

**Yarn:** Stylecraft Special DK, (A) shade 1084 Magenta, 1 (2, 2, 2) 100g balls, (B) shade 1432 Wisteria, (C) shade 1034 Sherbet, 1 (2, 2, 3) 100g balls of each; (D) Stylecraft Life DK, shade 2323 Mixtures Charcoal, 1 (1,1,1) 100g ball  
**Needles:** 3.25mm, 4mm

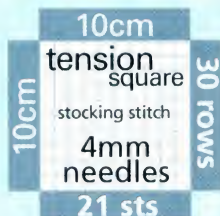
**Fabric:** gingham cotton, 65mm x 65mm; flesh-coloured washable felt, 150mm x 130mm

**Interfacing:** iron-on adhesive, 15cm x 15cm

**Poppers:** three

**Buttons:** pink spotty, 18mm, two; purple spotty, 18mm, one

**Cotton thread:** red and blue



### About the Yarn

**Stylecraft Special DK** is smooth 100% acrylic which makes it highly practical for childrenswear. It comes in a fabulous rainbow of bright and muted shades so any colour combination could be used for this project.

**Stylecraft Life DK** blends 75% acrylic with 25% wool and is also machine washable.

### Need an Alternative?

The stated yarn is a good value option but for extra softness, try **Wendy Peter Pan DK**. Made from 55% nylon and 45% Courtelle acrylic, it is intended for baby knits so is very gentle against the skin. Choose from over 50 shades!

For abbreviations see page 86



Cute  
appliquéd  
design for  
kids

exclusive  
to LK!





## POLLY PATTERN Back

Using yarn A and 4mm needles, cast on 74 (80, 86, 92) sts  
☐ Rows 1-4: beg with a k row, work in st st  
☐ Row 5: [k2tog, yfwd] to last two sts, k2tog. 73 (79, 85, 91) sts  
☐ Rows 6-10: beg with a p row, work in st st  
 Change to yarn B  
☐ Work in st st until Back meas 20.5 (23, 25.5, 28) cm from eyelet row ending with a WS side row, pm to indicate start of armholes

### SHAPE ARMHOLES FOURTH SIZE ONLY

☐ Row 1: k1, sl 1, k1, pssso, k to last three sts, k2tog, k1  
☐ Row 2: p1, p2tog, p to last three sts, p2tog tbl, p1  
☐ Rep Rows 1 and 2 once more

### ALL SIZES

☐ Row 1: k1, sl 1, k1, pssso, k to last three sts, k2tog, k1  
☐ Row 2: p  
☐ Rep Rows 1 and 2 until 27 (29, 31, 31) sts rem ending with a WS row  
☐ Cast off

## Left front

Using 4mm needles and yarn A, cast on 36 (40, 42, 46) sts  
☐ Rows 1-4: beg with a k row, work in st st  
☐ Row 5: [k2tog, yfwd] to last two sts, k2tog. 35 (39, 41, 45) sts  
☐ Rows 6-10: beg with a p row, work in st st inc one st in middle of Row 9 for first and third sizes only. 36 (39, 42, 45) sts  
 Change to yarn C  
☐ Work in st st until Left front meas 20.5 (23, 25.5, 28)

cm from eyelet row ending with a WS row, PM to indicate start of armhole.

### SHAPE ARMHOLE FIRST, SECOND AND THIRD SIZES ONLY

☐ Row 1: k1, sl 1, k1, pssso, k to end  
☐ Row 2: p

### FOURTH SIZE ONLY

☐ Row 1: k1, sl 1, k1, pssso, k to end  
☐ Row 2: p to last three sts, p2tog tbl, p1

☐ Rep Rows 1 & 2 once more

### ALL SIZES

☐ Row 1: k1, sl 1, k1, pssso, k to last three sts, k2tog, k1  
☐ Row 2: p  
☐ Row 3: k1, sl 1, k1, pssso, k to end  
☐ Row 4: p  
☐ Rep Rows 1-4 9 (10, 11, 11) times more. Five sts  
☐ Next row: k1, sl 1, k1, pssso, k2  
☐ Next row: p  
☐ Next row: k1, sl 1, k1, pssso, k1

☐ Next row: p2tog, p1  
☐ Row 5: k2tog  
☐ Fasten off

## Right front

Using 4mm needles and yarn A, cast on 36 (40, 42, 46) sts

☐ Rows 1-4: beg with a k row, work in st st  
☐ Row 5: (k2tog, yfwd) to last two sts, k2tog. 35 (39, 41, 45) sts  
☐ Rows 6-10: beg with a p row, work in st st inc one st in middle of Row 9 for first and third sizes only. 36 (39, 42, 45) sts

Change to yarn C

☐ Work in st st until Right front meas 20.5 (23, 25.5, 28) cm from eyelet row ending with a WS row, pm to indicate start of armhole

### SHAPE ARMHOLE FIRST, SECOND AND THIRD SIZES ONLY

☐ Row 1: k to last three sts, k2tog, k1  
☐ Row 2: p

### FOURTH SIZE ONLY

☐ Row 1: k to last three sts, k2tog, k1  
☐ Row 2: p1, p2tog, p to end  
☐ Rep rows 1 & 2 once more

### ALL SIZES

☐ Row 1: k1, sl 1, k1 pssso, k to last three sts, k2tog, k1  
☐ Row 2: p



## knit wise

### Pocket the difference

When adding a pocket to a finished garment you can either make the panel separately and sew it on, or pick up and knit the stitches. In this case the designer has picked up the stitches horizontally 10 rows up from the start of the yarn C section on the Left front. To do this, use a tapestry needle to thread the tail of yarn D through onto the WS of the work and tie in place to secure. On the RS, starting 11 (13, 14, 15) stitches from left side seam, insert a knitting needle into the right-hand bar of the 'v' in the next stitch. Wrap the yarn around the needle and pull through the stitch. Repeat this until you have 14 stitches on the needle, turn and continue as instructed in the pattern. This technique gives a nice smooth join that is invisible from the WS. When completed you just need to sew up the side edges.





"Try experimenting with different designs for the appliqué motif. Why not choose your child's favourite animal or cartoon character"

DEPUTY EDITOR ADRIENNE CHANDLER

- ☐ Row 3: k to last three sts, k2tog, k1
- ☐ Row 4: p
- ☐ Rep Rows 1-4 9 (10, 11, 11) times more. Five sts
- ☐ Next row: k2, k2tog, k1
- ☐ Next row: p
- ☐ Next row: k1, k2tog, k1
- ☐ Next row: p1, p2tog
- ☐ Next row: k2tog
- ☐ Fasten off

## Sleeve stripe sequence

- ☐ Yarn D
- ☐ Yarn C
- ☐ Yarn B
- ☐ Yarn A
- ☐ Yarn B
- ☐ Yarn C
- ☐ Yarn D
- ☐ Yarn C
- ☐ Yarn A
- ☐ Yarn B
- ☐ Yarn A
- ☐ Yarn B
- ☐ Yarn C
- ☐ Rep sequence

## Sleeves (make two)

- Using 4mm needles and yarn A, cast on 42 (44, 46, 46) sts
- ☐ Rows 1-4: beg with a k row, work in st st
  - ☐ Row 5: [k2tog, yfwd] to last two sts, k2tog. 41 (43, 45, 45) sts
  - ☐ Rows 6-10: beg with a p row, work in st st
- Commence stripe sequence working four rows in each colour and cont in patt as folls:
- ☐ Work two

- rows in st st
- ☐ Inc one st each end of next row then every foll eighth row until there are 55 (59, 63, 65) sts
  - ☐ Cont working in st st and Stripe sequence until Sleeve meas 24 (27, 28, 31) cm from eyelet row ending with a WS row

## SHAPE SLEEVE TOP

- ☐ Row 1: k1, sl 1, k1, pssso, k to last three sts, k2tog, k1
- ☐ Row 2: p
- ☐ Rep Rows 1 and 2 until nine sts rem ending with a WS row
- ☐ Cast off

## To make up

Block each piece. Using mattress stitch, join raglan armhole seams, followed by the side seams, and finally the sleeve seams. Take care to match stripes. Fold back cuffs and hem to WS at eyelet row and sew to secure

## Faux button band

- Using 3.25mm needles and yarn A, cast on six sts
- ☐ Row 1: [k1, p1] to end

- ☐ Row 2: [p1, k1] to end
- These two rows form moss st
- ☐ Rep Rows 1 and 2 until band is long enough to reach from above hem section on Left front, up front of cardigan, across shoulders and back of neck and down Right front to start of hem in yarn A
- NOTE:** do not cast off yet – place sts on a holder while sewing band in place. This allows for more rows to be added or removed as required
- Sew in place using mattress stitch, then cast off. Stitch three poppers equally spaced along band. Place a button on outside in line with poppers to give impression of buttons

## Pocket

- Using 3.25mm needles and yarn D, either cast on or pick up and k (see Knit wise panel) 14 sts
- ☐ If picking up sts, p to end on next row (WS)
  - ☐ Beg with a k row, work 16 rows in st st
  - ☐ Change to yarn A
  - ☐ K one row
  - ☐ Row 1: [k1, p1] to end
  - ☐ Row 2: [p1, k1] to end
  - ☐ Work Rows 1 and 2 once more
  - ☐ Work Row 1 once more
  - ☐ Cast off
- If knitted separately, position

pocket 11 (13, 14, 15) sts from left side seam and ten rows from first yarn C row on left front, backstitch along bottom edge

For all methods, pin sides of pocket in place and backstitch along side edges

## Dolly

Carefully cut out pattern templates, iron adhesive interfacing on WS of fabrics following manufacturer's directions. When fabric has cooled, place templates on appropriate fabric and trace around – use felt for arms and head and cotton for dress. Cut out pieces. Remove backing from interfacing and position pieces glue side down to give appearance of doll in pocket. Iron pieces in place using a low heat and with a tea towel on top for protection. **NOTE:** extreme caution should be used with ironing any acrylic yarn. Iron your tension square to test. You may need to sew pieces in place instead. Cut 14 15cm strands of yarn D and secure these on top of doll's head and

again at the sides to form pigtails. Embroider French knots for eyes and mouth

let's shop!

**Stylecraft Special DK** costs £1.50 per 100g (295m) ball, **Stylecraft Life DK** costs £2.50 per 100g (298m) ball from Knitting Well, 0117 9701740

**Wendy Peter Pan DK** costs £2.75 per 50g (170m) ball from Modern Knitting, 01279 771153, [www.modernknitting.co.uk](http://www.modernknitting.co.uk)







# flower babies



Different textures and vibrant colours make this adorable toy great fun for the little ones

Babies love tactile playthings and with its brightly-coloured petals and multitude of textured stitches, this flower is sure to be a hit. LK designer Val Pierce has used up oddments of yarn from her stash and incorporated solid and variegated shades as well as striped patterns. With cables, picot edges, moss stitch and garter stitch patterns, this small toy is as fun to knit as it is for little ones to play with. One side of the flower features a cheerful, smiley face while the other has a sleepy expression – take a look at the Knit wise panel on advice for embroidering the features.

## knit knowledge

### Measurements & sizes

Width: approx 21cm

### Knit kit

**Yarn:** oddments of DK, including yellow

**Needles:** 3.25mm

**Cable needle**

**Safety toy stuffing**

### About the Yarn

This project uses oddments of DK. As it's a baby toy, try to use yarns that are machine washable.

### Need an alternative?

If you've used all your oddments or wish to use a specific colour scheme, check out **Patons FaB DK**. It's a machine washable, acrylic yarn that comes in handy 25g balls which is ideal for toy-making.

### Special abbreviations

**mb:** make bobble – (k1, p1, k1, p1) all into next st, turn, p4, turn, k4, turn, p4, turn, k4, lift second, third and fourth sts over first st

**C4B:** sl next two sts onto cn, hold at back of work, k2 from LH needle, k2 from cn

For abbreviations see page 86

## POSY PATTERN

### Centre of flower (make two)

Using 3.25mm needles cast on ten sts

- ☐ K two rows
- ☐ Cont in garter st, inc one st at each end of next and foll alt rows until there are 24 sts
- ☐ Work 18 rows without shaping
- ☐ Dec one st at each end of next and foll alt rows until ten sts rem
- ☐ K two rows
- ☐ Cast off

## Petals

### GARTER ST PETALS (MAKE NINE)

**NOTE:** for striped version, work in two row stripes

Using 3.25mm needles cast on eight sts

- ☐ K two rows
- ☐ Cont in garter st, inc one st at each end of next and foll alt rows until there are 14 sts
- ☐ Work eight rows without shaping
- ☐ Dec one st at end of next and foll alt rows until two sts rem
- ☐ Next row: k2tog
- ☐ Fasten off

### MOSS ST PETALS (MAKE NINE)

Using 3.25mm needles cast on nine sts

Work in moss st as follows:

- ☐ Row 1: (k1, p1) to last st, k1
- ☐ Row 2: as Row 1
- ☐ Cont in moss st and working inc sts into patt, inc one st at each end of next and foll alt rows until you have 15 sts
- ☐ Work eight rows without shaping
- ☐ Dec one st at each end of next and foll alt rows until three sts rem
- ☐ Next row: k3tog
- ☐ Fasten off

- ☐ Row 5: as Row 1
- ☐ Row 6: as Row 2
- These six rows set patt
- ☐ Rep patt until work is long enough to fit around inner circle of face, ending on a Row 6
- ☐ Cast off

## Bobble Ring

Using 3.25mm needles cast on seven sts

- ☐ K four rows
- ☐ Next row: k3, mb, k3
- ☐ K five rows
- ☐ Rep last six rows until work fits around inner circle of face ending on a k row
- ☐ Cast off

## To make up

**NOTE:** as this toy is for babies, ensure all elements are firmly secured





## knit wise

### Face the challenge

Facial expression on a toy is really important as a wonky mouth or uneven eyes can unintentionally change it from cute to creepy. The 'awake' eyes are created using satin stitch. Thread a blunt tapestry needle with the necessary yarn and insert it through the front of the fabric, bringing it back out three rows up. Take the yarn back through the piece close to the first entry point leaving a long strand on the RS of the work. Keep the strands as close as possible to avoid gaps. Use a French knot for the pupil and make two small stitches for eyelashes. The smile and sleepy eyes are made using a loop of yarn secured into a curve with small stitches. Make sure the thread for the loop comes in and out on the same row and check the securing stitch is in the centre or the feature will be lopsided.

Sew together centre pieces leaving a small opening for stuffing. Stuff lightly then close up gap. Join petals together in pairs of garter st and moss st. Join sides leaving base open, stuff lightly, then close gap. Arrange petals around centre, pin in position and stitch firmly in place. Embroider a smiley face on one side of centre section and a sleepy face on the other, as shown in photographs (see Knit wise panel).

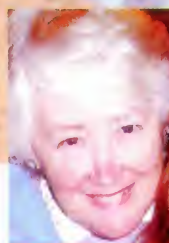
Fold cable strip in half lengthways, sew seam, then join strip into a circle. Rep with bobble strip and stitch one around each centre to cover where petals are joined.

let's shop!

Patons FaB DK costs 59p per 25g (68m) ball from Purplelinda Crafts, [www.purplelindacrafts.co.uk](http://www.purplelindacrafts.co.uk)



Cheap and cheery knit babies will love



LK DESIGNER VAL PIERCE

"Use up all your oddments of bright DK to knit this cute baby grab toy. By adding a hanging loop, the flower could also be used as a pram toy"





“Tunisian crochet is constructed by pulling one stitch through another in a similar way to knitting”

CROCHET EXPERT PAULINE TURNER

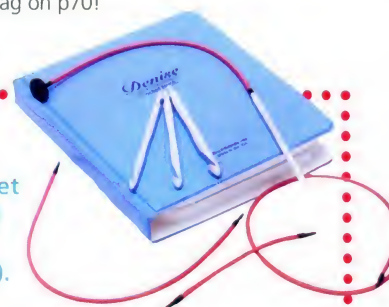
**K**nown as Tunisian or Afghan crochet, this technique creates a fabric that looks almost woven or knitted. In contrast to traditional crochet, all your stitches are held on a long hook which is great for maintaining tension – this is often a problem area for knitters trying regular crochet. This method is actually much closer to knitting; the fabric produced is quite dense rather than lacy and the reverse side of the basic fabric even looks like knitting! As with both knitting and crochet there are many different Tunisian stitch patterns. In this tutorial we will show you how to get started, master Tunisian simple and purl stitches then combine them together to make a honeycomb stitch. When you’ve got the hang of it, have a go at our gorgeous Dionne clutch bag on p70!

# hooked up

Try something new and discover the art of Tunisian crochet with Pauline Turner

## The hook

We are using Denise interchangeable crochet hooks with a cord and an end-stop ([www.knitdenise.com](http://www.knitdenise.com)). These really lend themselves to this technique as the cord can be changed to suit the required number of stitches. You can also purchase straight varieties that look like long knitting needles with a hook at the end.



## Getting started



### FOUNDATION CHAIN

Tunisian crochet begins with a normal foundation chain (ch).

**How to do it:** Make a slip knot and place it on the hook. Wrap the yarn around the hook and pull through loop. This is your first ch. Continue in this way until you have the correct number of ch

(NOTE: do not count the loop on the hook as a ch).



### PICKING UP STITCHES

In this technique all the stitches are held on the hook, to start you need to transfer your ch onto the hook. This is called ‘picking up’ stitches.

**How to do it:** Insert hook into first ch, yoh, pull through first loop only, leaving two loops on hook. Repeat this until you have picked up all the ch sts.



### RETURN PASS

Each Tunisian crochet row is made up of a forward and a return pass. Do this after picking up your stitches.

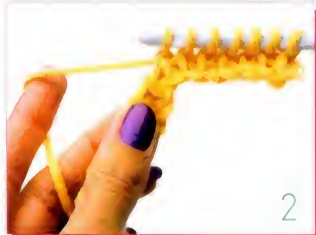
**How to do it:** Yoh, pull through first loop on hook.  
\* Yoh, pull through next two loops. Rep from \* until one loop rem on hook. Every return pass will be worked in this way unless otherwise stated.



## The basics TUNISIAN SIMPLE STITCH (TSS)



**Step 1:** Miss the edge stitch and, with the yarn at the back, insert the hook into the vertical bar at the front of the stitch. Wrap the yarn around the hook and pull through the bar, leaving two loops on the hook.



**Step 2:** Continue along the row in this way. Work into the edge stitch at the end of the row. This creates a row of vertical bars.

## TUNISIAN PURL STITCH (TPS)



**Step 1:** Miss the edge stitch. Move the yarn to the front of the work and insert the hook into the vertical bar at the front of the stitch. Wrap the yarn around the hook from back to front and pull through the bar, leaving the loop on the hook.



**Step 2:** Continue along the row in this way until you reach the last st. Work a TSS in the edge stitch. Tunisian purl stitch creates a row of horizontal bumps.

## HONEYCOMB STITCH

The honeycomb stitch is used for our Dionne clutch bag on page 70.



**How to do it:** This stitch pattern is made up of alternating one TSS and one TPS stitch on each row. On the following row, continue to alternate, working TSS in TPS stitches and vice versa.

## FASTENING OFF

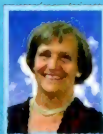
After your final return pass, you will be ready to fasten off. Try to maintain your stitch pattern for a neat finish.

### How to do it:

Miss the edge stitch, \* insert hook into bar (either TSS or TPS-wise according to pattern), yoh hook, and pull through both loops on hook. Rep to end, working a TSS into last edge stitch. Cut yarn and pull through last st to secure.



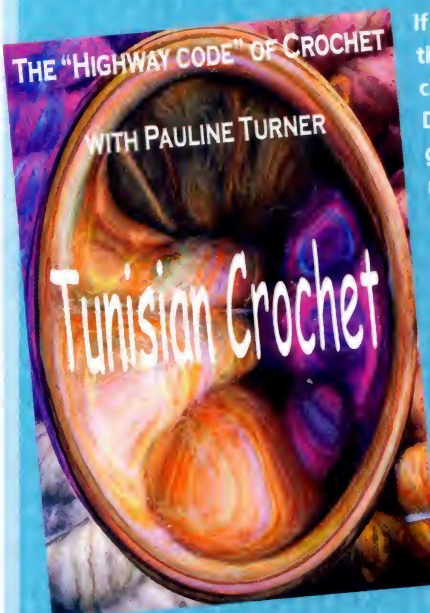
# Ask the Expert



Author, teacher and crocheter extraordinaire Pauline Turner shares her knowledge of Tunisian crochet

## Top tips

- Use a hook much larger than that recommended for knitting on the ball band to produce a soft fabric, and a hook smaller than the Tunisian hook for all other crochet
- When adding a border, pick up two strands of yarn at the sides to avoid holes
- Easily interlock two colours using Tunisian simple stitch to form amazing tweed-like fabrics
- Embellish Tunisian simple stitch with cross stitch embroidery
- Produce a reversible Tunisian fabric by working with a double ended Tunisian hook
- Interlock two different types of yarn – one smooth and one fluffy using a double ended Tunisian hook for an exciting reversible fabric



If you want to know more about the techniques mentioned above, check out Pauline's Tunisian crochet DVD. You'll learn how to get to grips with the basics, make reversible fabrics and add professional style edgings for a flawless finish. Find out how to increase and decrease, plus take a look at the wide range of textures and colourful effects that can be created with this fascinating hobby!

Available now for just £12 with free postage for Let's Knit readers. Just quote issue 39 and page 69 when you order.

To find out more contact Pauline at:  
Pauline Turner, Crochet Design, 11 North Street  
Morecambe, LA4 5LR

01524 831752  
paulineturner@crochet.co.uk  
www.crochet.co.uk





# clutch control

Fall in love with Tunisian crochet with our gorgeous Dionne clutch, designed by Barbara Kreuter

Discover a new technique and make yourself a fabulously stylish accessory with our exclusive Tunisian crochet project. Learn the basics in our tutorial on p68 and put your new-found skills to the test with this simple yet effective pattern. Dionne is worked in a fashionable teal shade and features honeycomb stitch which combines two easy stitches to produce a really textured fabric.



EXCLUSIVE  
CROCHET  
PROJECT  
EVERY  
ISSUE

## hooky help

### Measurements & sizes

**Dionne:** 15cm x 23cm closed

### Crochet kit

**Yarn:** Rowan by Amy Butler Belle Organic Aran, shade 204 Peacock, two 50g balls  
**Hook:** 6mm, 5.5mm, interchangeable by Denise Button, one  
**Poppers**



**NOTE:** straight Tunisian crochet hooks can also be used for this project

### About the Yarn

Rowan by Amy Butler Belle Organic Aran is a 50/50 mix of wool and cotton, creating a sturdy fabric with excellent stitch definition. It's available in 15 shades ranging from zesty, citrus tones to more subtle pastels. Hand wash in cold water and do not tumble dry.

### Need an Alternative?

Debbie Bliss Eco Aran is made from 100% cotton and coloured using non-toxic dyes and recyclable water. It is produced in association with the Bio Re Textile Chain which supports the farmers and communities involved in the production process. Choose from 24 shades, including 615 which is a similar shade to the yarn used here.

### Special Abbreviations

**TSS:** Tunisian simple stitch. See p68

**TPS:** Tunisian purl stitch. See p68

For abbreviations see page 86

## DIONNE PATTERN

Using 6mm Tunisian crochet hook, make 40ch

**NOTE:** each row in Tunisian crochet is worked in two halves, the second half is referred to as the Return pass

□ Foundation row: insert hook into second ch from hook, yoh, pick up loop, pick up one loop from each chain to end (see tutorial on p68). 40 loops on hook. Return

pass: yoh, pull through first loop, \* yoh, pull through next two loops, rep from \* until one loop rem at RH edge

□ Row 1: miss edge st, \* TSS in next st, TPS in next st, rep from \* to last st, TSS in left edge st. Return pass: yoh, pull through first loop, \* yoh, pull through next two loops, rep from \* until one loop rem on hook at RH edge

□ Row 2: miss edge st, \* TPS in next st, TSS in next st, rep from \* to last st, TSS in left edge st. Return pass: yoh, pull through first loop, \* yoh, pull through next two loops, rep





## crochet clever

### Stitch perfect

Knitters may think of Honeycomb Stitch as equivalent to moss stitch. Each row alternates Tunisian simple and Tunisian purl stitches and in every subsequent row you work a simple st over a purl st, and a purl over a simple. Like knitted moss stitch, Tunisian honeycomb stitch counteracts the curl that plain Tunisian crochet can exhibit and produces a decorative texture with very little effort.

from \* until one loop rem at RH edge

□ Rep Rows 1 and 2 until work meas 30cm, ending with Row 2 after the Return pass

loops, rep from \* until one loop rem at RH edge

□ Rep last row until there are three loops before Return pass  
□ Fasten off

### FLAP

□ Next row: insert hook into first st after edge st, yoh, pull through st and loop on hook, \* TPS in next st, TSS in next st, rep from \* to last two sts, TSS in next st, leave left edge st unworked. 38 sts on hook. Return pass: yoh, pull through first loop, \* yoh, pull through next two loops, rep from \* until one loop rem at RH edge

□ Rep Rows 1 and 2 twice

□ Next row: insert hook TSS-wise in next st, yoh, pull through st and loop on hook, insert hook TPS-wise in next st, yoh, pull through st and loop on hook, insert hook TSS-wise in next st, yoh, pull through st only, yoh, draw through both loops on hook, \* TPS in next st, TSS in next st; rep from \* to last st, TSS in left edge st. 35 sts on hook. Return pass: yoh, pull through first loop, \* yoh, pull through next two loops, rep from \* until one loop rem at RH edge

□ Next row: insert hook TSS-wise in next st, yoh, pull through st and loop on hook, insert hook TPS-wise in next st, yoh, pull through st and loop on hook, insert hook TSS-wise in next st, yoh, pull through st only, yoh, draw through both loops on hook, \* TPS in next st, TSS in next st, rep from \* to last two sts at LH edge, hook TSS-wise through both of the rem sts, yoh and pull through. 31 loops on hook. Return pass: \* yoh, draw through two

### To make up

Seam together each side of bag, matching foundation row to 3cm below beg of curved edge of flap. With 5.5mm hook, work a row of dc around flap working 1dc, 1ch, 1dc into point of flap. Attach popper to fasten and sew button in same position on top of flap. Weave in all ends



**Rowan by Amy Butler**  
**Belle Organic Aran**  
costs £5.25 per 50g (90m) ball from Stash Fine Yarns, 01244 389310, [www.stashfineyarns.com](http://www.stashfineyarns.com)



**Debbie Bliss Eco Aran**  
costs £3.95 per 50g (90m) ball from Cafe Knit, 020 8863 1301, [www.cafeknit.com](http://www.cafeknit.com)



**Denise**  
**Interchangeable Crochet hook set**, \$39.95 (approx £25.36), [www.knitdenise.com](http://www.knitdenise.com)



See our tutorial on p68!



"Teal is one of this season's hottest colour trends, while the diagonal front flap on this cute clutch adds a fashionable edge to a simple design"

LK DEPUTY EDITOR ADRIENNE CHANDLER

Dress, £59.99, TK Maxx. Jewellery from a selection at Debenhams



# 5 common problems

Has a pattern left you perplexed? We're on hand to sort things out!

**N**o matter how experienced a knitter you are, there's a good chance that every once in a while you'll come across something in a project that you don't understand or you can't quite get the hang of. Fear not, we're here to make things a bit clearer and help you on your way.



## Left or right?

In a knitting pattern, the left and right fronts refer to the sides as they would be worn, rather than as you look at them. Imagine you are wearing the finished garment and raise your left hand in front of you. This is the Left front. When laid flat with the RS facing, this will be on the right-hand side but remains the Left front.

## Size matters

We all know that tension squares can be tedious to knit but we also know how much time and effort is involved in knitting a garment. If your garment has come out too big or too small and you have followed the pattern correctly, the most common explanation is that you did not check your tension before you began.

If you have more or fewer stitches than in the given tension square, don't just hope for the best, change up or down a needle size and do another tension square until you get the right measurements.

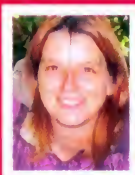


## Lost in translation

Unfortunately there are no set guidelines as to how a pattern should be written and because of this, it is easy to misunderstand instructions. Problems often arise when you are told to repeat a section 'until the last X sts'. Sometimes you will have worked a full repeat at this point and can carry on as normal, at other times you will be required to stop in the middle of the repeat section then work the last stitches as instructed. Not all patterns will tell you whether you should have a full repeat, so trust the directions. After a few rows, if the stitch pattern looks like it is incorrect, contact your pattern provider.



## Substitute teacher



Nicola Rutterford (left) explains:

If you don't want to use the stated yarn for a particular project, feel free to change it. However, there are things you need to remember. Yarn Box's

### Look at the original yarn

"It's important to use a yarn with similar properties. The fibre content will determine how a garment drapes, e.g. cotton and bamboo are quite heavy, wool is medium weight and acrylic is light. Some fibres are lofty, while others are tightly twisted – this will affect stitch definition so think about the pattern."

### Match the tension

"Choose a yarn that knits to the tension specified on similar sized needles. Look at the ball band for the number of

stitches and rows to a 10cm square. Check whether it's specified in the pattern stitch or stocking stitch. If you don't want to knit a swatch, you can knit a small part of the garment like a sleeve and use it to calculate your tension."

### How much will you need?

"Check the pattern to find out how many metres of yarn you will need. Multiply the number of balls required for your size by the meterage of the original yarn and use this to calculate how many balls of your new yarn are required. Do not judge by weight and if in doubt, add an extra ball."

Yarn Box stocks a wide range of yarns including a selection of unusual fibres, so there's plenty to choose from if you're thinking of substituting. For further information, call 07791 639896 or visit [www.yarnbox.co.uk](http://www.yarnbox.co.uk)



## In a twist?

Cables are a classic way of creating a textured knitted fabric but beginners to this technique often struggle to make them look even. Ruth Chester, owner of The Little Knitting Company, shares three top tips for creating perfect cables:

- 1 Give yarn an extra tug after knitting the first stitch of the cable to help reduce holes.
- 2 Keep the cable needle holding the stitches close to the main body of the work to prevent stretching the stitches.
- 3 Don't forget, you don't have to slide the stitches back onto the knitting needle but can knit them directly from the cable needle!

These cable needles (above) are exclusive to The Little Knitting Company and are made of Subabul, a sustainable material that comes from an Indian plant. They cost £4.95 for a set of three different sizes. Call 07980 439587 or visit [www.thelittleknittingcompany.co.uk](http://www.thelittleknittingcompany.co.uk)





# ask Kitty!

Our resident knitting agony aunt is here to help answer your queries on our patterns!

Back issues are available by calling 0844 844 0947

Our expert Knitty Kitty offers helpful advice on patterns that have previously appeared in Let's Knit. Whether it's a confusing instruction, a discontinued yarn, an error in a pattern or something that just isn't working out for you, Kitty is on hand to

sort things out. If you're still having problems over something not featured here don't suffer in silence, simply contact the Let's Knit team on [support@letsknit.co.uk](mailto:support@letsknit.co.uk) or 01206 508622 (office hours only please!)

**Q** I have been knitting the Seraphina Sweater in issue 36 of Let's Knit but I need at least another two balls of yarn to finish. I bought ten balls of King Cole Merino Blend DK for size 14 as stated, but have run out of wool before reaching the armhole shaping on the sleeves (long sleeve version). I have checked tension.

**A** Sorry to hear that you have run out of yarn before finishing your garment. Yarn quantities for our patterns are always carefully calculated but estimating them is not an exact science and occasionally we go awry. Based on this experience we would suggest that all sizes of the long-sleeved version of Seraphina from size 14 upwards will require two more balls than we've estimated, and that size 12 will require one more ball - in other words you need 9 (10, 11, 12, 13, 13, 13) balls for sizes 8 (10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20) respectively. Again this is an estimate but hopefully a more accurate one!



## pattern updates

Winter Warmers booklet  
Free with issue 37

### Purple Rain (p12)

We previously suggested that you need to knit an additional purl row before Row 1 of Shape Crown, but this correction will still give you an unwanted ridge! Instead, you should simply change the knit decrease row before Shape Crown to a purl decrease row (in other words the final row before Shape Crown should be amended to 'p2, (p2tog, p1, p2tog, p2) 25 times'



Chart A Cowl

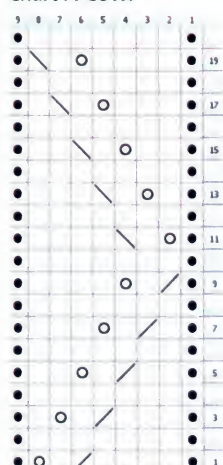
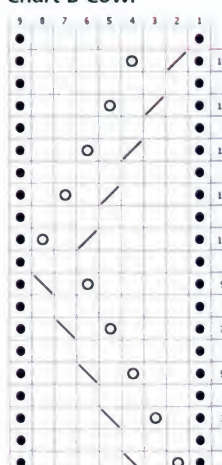


Chart B Cowl



Edging Chart Cowl



Edging Chart Handwarmers

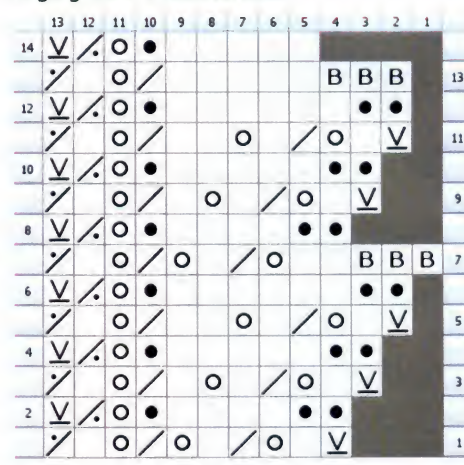


Chart A Handwarmers

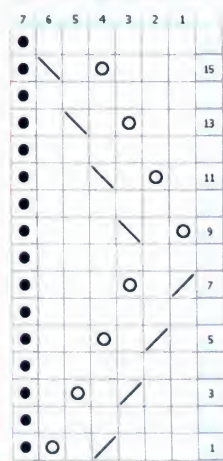


Chart B Handwarmers

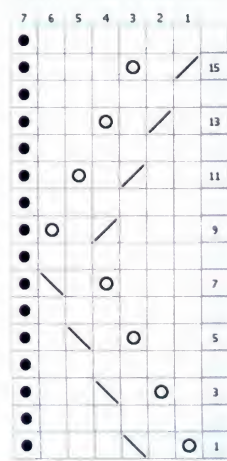


Chart C Handwarmers

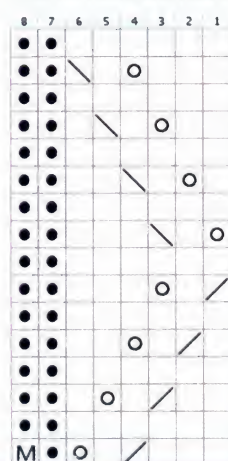
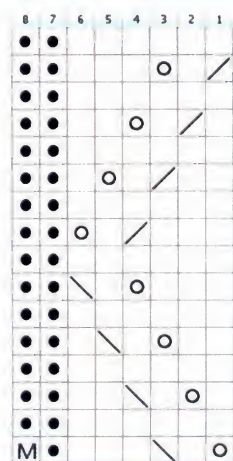


Chart D Handwarmers

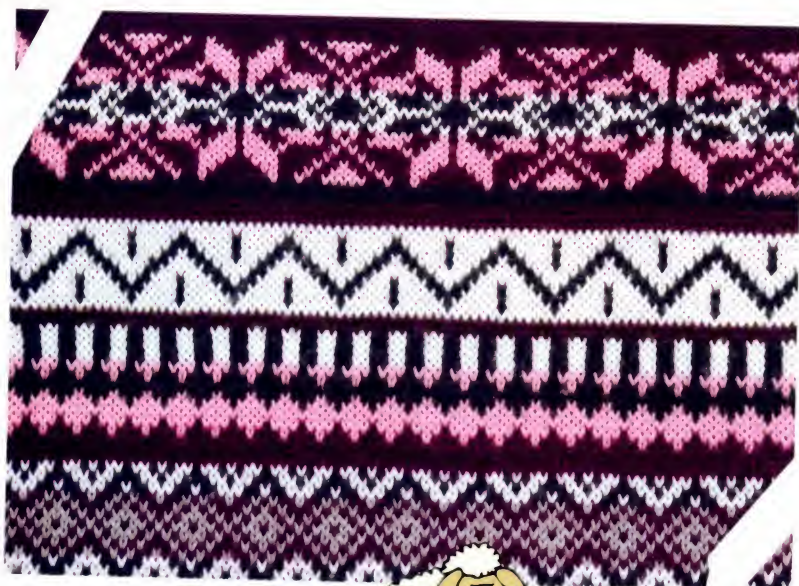


**Key** Note: when working in the rnd all sts are RS  
 \ slip wyif  
 RS: slip st as if to p, with yarn in front  
 WS: slip st as if to p, with yarn in back  
 knit  
 RS: k st WS: p st  
 o yfwd, yrn, yon  
 yarn forward, yarn round needle, yarn over needle  
 / k2tog  
 / single join  
 RS: k border st tog with edge st/live st from centre panel  
 • purl  
 RS: p st WS: k st  
 B Russian cast off  
 M make one  
 \ ssk

Charts for Royal Purple page 12



# turn the tables



Keep these pages handy to guide you on your way

UK	US	GAUGE OVER 10CM	AVERAGE NEEDLE SIZE
2ply/Lace	Baby	30 – 32 sts	2.25mm – 2.75mm
3ply	Fingering	27 – 30 sts	2.75mm – 3.25mm
4ply	Sportweight	23 – 26 sts	3.25mm – 3.75mm
Double Knitting (DK)	Worsted	21 – 24 sts	3.75mm – 4.5mm
Aran	Fisherman/ Medium	16 – 20 sts	4.5mm – 5.5mm
Chunky	Bulky	12 – 15 sts	5.5mm – 8mm
Super Chunky	Super Bulky	6 – 11sts	8mm or larger

## NEEDLE SIZING

UK (mm)	U.S.A	Old UK/ Canada
2	0	14
2.25	1	13
2.75	2	12
3	-	11
3.25	3	10
3.5	4	-
3.75	5	9
4	6	8
4.5	7	7
5	8	6
5.5	9	5
6	10	4
6.5	10 1/2	3
7	-	2
7.5	-	1
8	11	0
9	13	00
10	15	000
12	17	-
15	-	-
16	19	-
19	35	-
20	36	-
25	50	-



## Step on to the scales

Just like tension, the weight of yarn can greatly affect the outcome of your work – which is especially disorientating when, as with needle sizing, yarn weights differ from country to country. The handy guide above should sort out any confusion.

“Using the correct size of needles for the yarn weight helps to produce a taut, neat fabric”

## Abbreviations

<b>0</b> no stitches, times or rows	<b>m1</b> make one stitch, by picking up the horizontal loop before next stitch and knitting into back of it	your left needle through the front loops of both slipped stitches and knit them together.
<b>-</b> no stitches, times or rows for that size	<b>m1p</b> make one stitch, by picking up the horizontal loop before next stitch and purling into back of it	<b>st(s)</b> stitch(es)
<b>alt</b> alternate	<b>meas</b> measure(s)	<b>st st</b> stocking stitch (RS row k, WS row p)
<b>approx</b> approximately	<b>mm</b> millimetres	<b>tbl</b> through the back of the loop(s)
<b>beg</b> beginning	<b>N1 (2,3)</b> needle 1 (2,3)	<b>tr</b> treble crochet
<b>bet</b> between	<b>p</b> purl	<b>WS</b> wrong side
<b>ch</b> chain stitch	<b>pb</b> place bead	<b>wyib</b> with yarn in back
<b>ch sp</b> chain space	<b>pm</b> place marker	<b>wyif</b> with yarn in front
<b>circ</b> circular needles	<b>p2tog</b> purl two sts together	<b>yb</b> yarn back
<b>cm</b> centimetres	<b>prev</b> previous	<b>yfwd</b> yarn forward (between knit sts)
<b>cn</b> cable needle	<b>pssso</b> pass slipped stitch over	<b>yoh</b> yarn over hook
<b>cont</b> continue (ing)	<b>pwisw</b> purlwise	<b>yon</b> yarn over needle (between a purl and a knit st)
<b>dc</b> double crochet	<b>rem</b> remain (ing)	<b>yrn</b> yarn round the needle (between purl sts and between a knit and a purl st)
<b>dec</b> decrease (ing)	<b>rep</b> repeat (ing)	<b>*</b> repeat instructions between the asterisks as many times as instructed
<b>dpn</b> double pointed needles	<b>rev st st</b> reverse stocking stitch	<b>()</b> work instructions inside the brackets as many times as instructed
<b>dtr</b> double treble crochet	<b>RS</b> right side	
<b>fol</b> following	<b>skpo</b> slip 1, knit 1, pass slipped stitch over	
<b>htr</b> half treble crochet	<b>sl 1</b> slip one stitch	
<b>inc</b> increase (ing)	<b>sl st</b> slip stitch	
<b>k</b> knit	<b>ssk</b> one by one, slip the next two stitches knitwise. Put	
<b>kfb</b> knit into the front and back of the next stitch		
<b>k2tog</b> knit two sts together		
<b>kwisw</b> knitwise		
<b>lp</b> loop		





# essential info

Everything you need to start knitting now!

## Tension headache

The tension square is a rather dull, yet essential part of the knitting process. Usually made up of a 10cm square of the stitch pattern used in your project, it demonstrates your gauge (the amount of stitches and rows per cm that your knitting equates to). Getting your gauge correct to the pattern's specifications is crucial to creating well-fitted garments.

u If you knit to a larger gauge than the pattern calls for (for example, if the tension is 24 stitches to 10cm but your 24 knitted stitches measure 11cm) this will be multiplied across your garment and the finished item will be bigger than it should be – and vice versa if your square comes up smaller.

u To create your tension square, cast on the number of stitches specified plus six more, using the yarn and needles recommended in your pattern. Make sure the stitches are not too tight or too loose. Knit until your work measures 14cm long using stocking stitch unless another stitch is specified. Knit the first and last two stitches on every row to prevent curling, then cast off. Now comes the important part – measuring your stitches.

u On the right side each stitch is signified by one complete 'V' shape in your work. Lay a ruler horizontally and use marker pins to indicate 10cm and count the

stitches, including half stitches. Do the same with the rows. Now compare this to the recommended tension given in the pattern. If there are too many stitches, your gauge is too tight – switch to a larger set of needles and try again. Similarly, if there are too few stitches, your gauge is too loose – try with smaller size needles.

u Laundering your finished swatch in the same way you would your finished item is also a good idea – it will demonstrate what will happen to it once it is washed. Will it shrink? Will the colours bleed? Will it soften? This shows how best to care for your items once they are completed.



## SUBSTITUTION

Just because we've given the names of the yarn we used to make our projects, doesn't mean you have to use the same – you can always replace it for one you favour more, or one that is more in your price range. However, yarn substituting can be a tricky business, so follow the handy hints below to ensure you end up with the gorgeous garment you desire.

1 Make sure that you can knit your potential stand-in yarn to the gauge specified in the pattern. It's no good trying to substitute a lace weight yarn for your favourite chunky – it simply won't knit up to the same gauge and as such, will be completely the wrong size when finished. So remember – always knit a tension square!

1 The above considered, potential substitutes can be found in differing yarn weights – the needles you use can be increased or decreased

to achieve varying gauges. However, it's always easier to stick to a similar weight.

1 Make sure that the yarn you decide to use has a similar feel to the one given in the pattern – for example, if the project is a soft, silky cardigan, it's probably best not to use a scratchy, coarse acrylic.

1 Check that the yarn you wish to use isn't discontinued – or, if it is, ensure you buy enough to create the whole project. There's nothing worse than getting towards the end of your pattern, only to discover that you don't have enough materials to finish it.

1 It seems like an obvious point, but if your project will need to be washed often, ensure that the substitute yarn is water-safe (also known as 'superwash' or 'easycare'). If not, your project will felt and shrink beyond recognition.

## Know your yarn

The ball band holds vital info about the way the yarn needs to be cared for, here's our guide to translating it:

### 1 YARN IDENTITY


This is where you'll find the name and brand.

### 2 FIBRE CONTENT

Understanding what the yarn is made up of will also be key to knowing how best to care for it. Yarns can be made from a range of different types of fibres, some are man-made and others are natural. The more common natural fibres are cotton, wool and silk, with mohair, angora and alpaca gaining in popularity. Man-made fibres include acrylic, rayon and nylon.

### 3 COLOUR DETAILS

The colour details are represented in both a shade name or code and a dye lot number. When working projects be sure to select the same dye lot number, to ensure that the colour is even throughout the piece. This will also indicate if it is hand dyed and whether it should be washed separately.






**William's Wonder Wool**

50% Merino Wool / 50% Mohair

Net Weight: 50g  
Approx: 66m  
Gauge: 5 stitches per inch  
Needle Size: 4.5mm

Colour: Flamingo Pink  
Dye Lot: W42GFTE

Spun and dyed by  
William's Sheep Farm  
Suffolk, England

4




### 4 WASHING DIRECTIONS

This will tell you how you to launder the finished item – whether it should be hand or machine washed. If you are using a combination of yarns to check the care instructions for all of them.

A garment knitted from our sample yarn must be hand washed, cannot be bleached and should be dried flat.



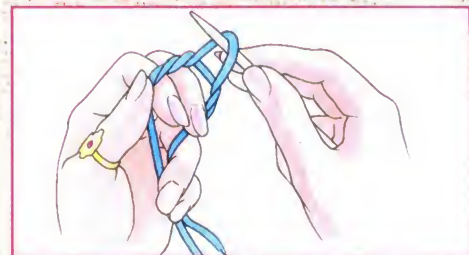
# start right

Learn to knit today with these clear guides

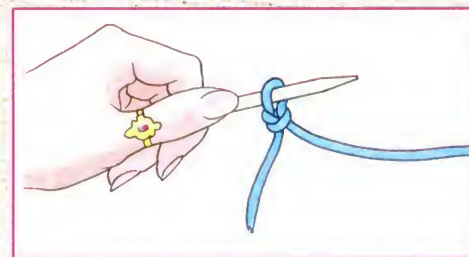


**Knitty SOS**  
If you're baffled by a new stitch or technique then take a look at our knitting video demos at [www.letsknit.co.uk](http://www.letsknit.co.uk)

## Making a slip knot



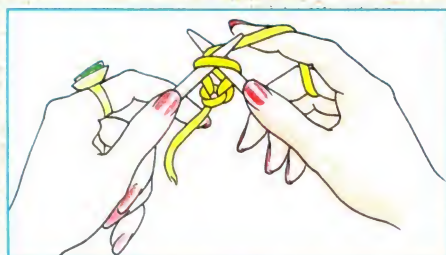
**1** Holding the yarn under your left thumb, middle fingers, with the second loop closer to the base of the fingers. With the backs of the fingers uppermost, insert the tip of the needle beneath the first loop and over the second, and pull the second loop under the first.



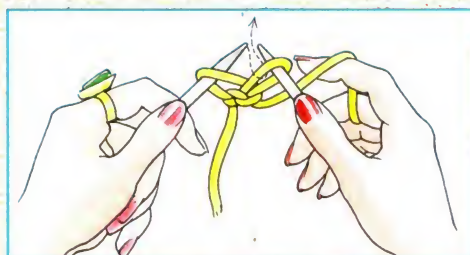
**2** Remove the two fingers and gently tug on both ends of yarn to tighten the slip knot around the needle.

## Cast on

Casting on is the basis of all knitting. There are several different ways to do it, but the two-needle method shown below is often considered the simplest to master.



**1** Create a slipknot on your left hand needle, pulling it taut (but not too tight). Carefully insert the right needle into the knot from front to back, passing under the left hand needle. Wrap the ball end of yarn anticlockwise around the point of the right needle.



**2** Pull the loop that forms back through the original stitch (knot) and insert the tip of the left hand needle into the new stitch from underneath to transfer it from the right hand to the left hand needle. There should now be two stitches on the left hand needle.



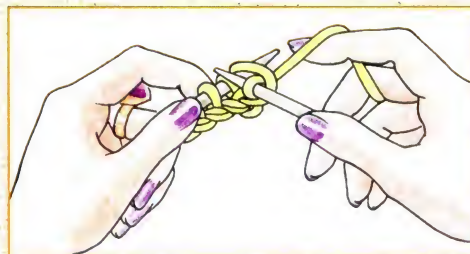
**3** Repeat the above steps, knitting into the top stitch on the left needle and returning the new stitches from the right to the left needle until you have the required number of stitches.

## Knit stitch

Similar to the cast on method (above), the knit stitch is the staple of all knitting (hence the name). Shown below is the English knitting style.



**1** Once cast on, insert the tip of the right needle upwards and from front to back into the top stitch on the left needle. The right hand needle should sit behind the left hand one. Wrap the ball end of yarn anticlockwise around the tip of the right hand needle.



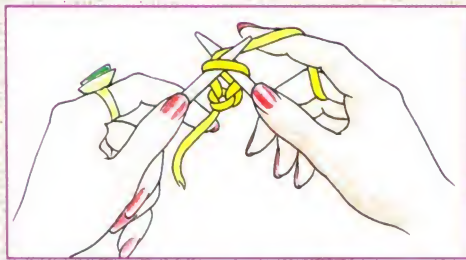
**2** Using the right hand needle, pull a loop of the wrapped yarn through the original stitch to create a new one on the right hand needle.



**3** Slide the original stitch off the left hand needle. Repeat from step one. You are now knitting! The knit stitch can be combined with other stitches to create hundreds of different stitch patterns.



## Cable cast on



**1** Create a slipknot on your left hand needle, pulling it taut (but not too tight). Carefully insert the right needle into the knot from front to back, passing under the left hand needle. Wrap the ball end of yarn anticlockwise around the point of the right needle.



**2** Pull the loop that forms back through the original stitch (knot) and insert the tip of the left hand needle into the new stitch from underneath to transfer it from the right hand to the left hand needle. There should now be two stitches on the left hand needle.

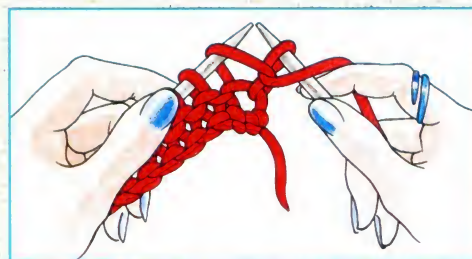


**3** Insert the right needle between the two stitches on the left needle and wrap the yarn around the needle tip anticlockwise. Draw this loop through to make a stitch and slip it up and onto the left needle. Repeat this creating a new loop behind the last stitch and passing it left needle in front of the previous one.

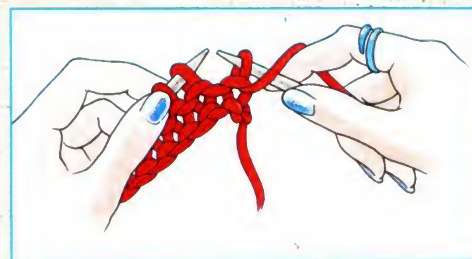
## Purl stitch



**1** With the ball end of the yarn at the front (toward you) insert the tip of the right hand needle into the front loop of the first stitch from the right to left and with the right hand needle in front of the left hand needle. Wrap the ball end of the yarn anticlockwise around the right hand needle.

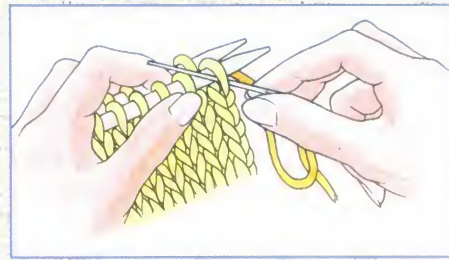


**2** Draw the needle backwards and upwards, forming a new stitch on the right hand needle.



**3** Once the new stitch has been formed on the right hand needle you can let the loop from the left needle slide off the end. Repeat until all the stitches have been purlled and you have complete the row.

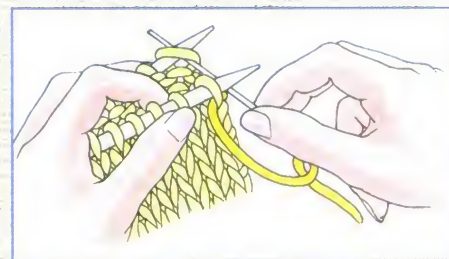
## Graft the toe



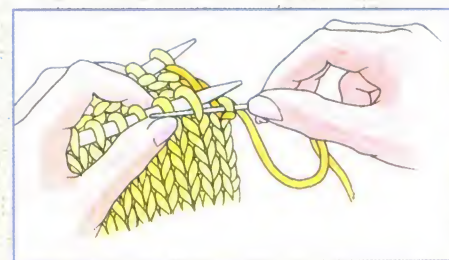
Kitchener Stitch is the method used to achieve this. It is worked as follows:

**SET UP:** Before starting you need to prepare the stitches on the needle. Hold the two needles with the remaining stitches parallel. The loose end of yarn should be coming from the back needle and lying to the right of the work.

**1** Thread yarn end onto a tapestry needle and insert it purlwise into the first stitch on the needle closest to you. Pull the yarn through but leave the stitch on the needle.



**2** Insert the tapestry needle knitwise into the first stitch on the back needle and pull the yarn through, leaving the stitch on the needle.



**3** Having set up as shown in steps 1 and 2, repeat steps 3 and 4 until all stitches have been grafted. Insert the tapestry needle knitwise into the first stitch on the front needle and slide the stitch off. Before you pull the yarn through this stitch insert the tapestry needle into the next stitch on the front needle purlwise and pull the yarn through, this time leaving the stitch on the needle.



**4** Insert the tapestry needle purlwise into the first stitch on the back needle and slide it off. Before pulling the yarn through this stitch, insert the tapestry needle into the next stitch on the back needle knitwise and pull the yarn through, leaving the stitch on the needle.

## Helping hand

Here are a few techniques to guide you through your projects.

k2tog: Philippa, p57  
tunisian crochet: p68



philippa





# final stages

Finish your project like a pro with these handy guides



## ON THE BLOCKS

Blocking is the process of stretching and shaping your finished items to create the correct dimensions from the pattern. It is also really useful for ensuring that pieces to be joined fit well together. There are a few different ways to achieve this, so check the information on the yarn ball band and pick the most suitable option.

### WET BLOCKING

Dampen the pieces so that they are wet through and gently push out excess water. Spread the sections out on a towel to air dry. Use a tape measure to ensure each part is the correct dimensions to that of the pattern and pin into the required shape.

For a more gentle option, try pinning it in place and lightly spritzing with a water spray. This is ideal for really delicate materials like cashmere which can be damaged by too much water.

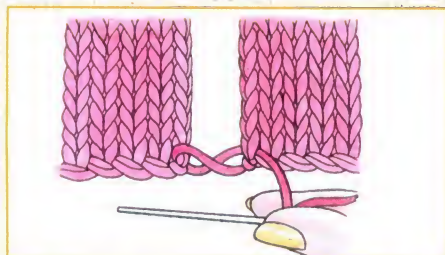


### STEAM IRON BLOCKING

Place a dampened cloth on top of the separate sections of your knitting. Work gently over this with a very hot iron, be careful not to let the iron come into direct contact with the knitting as it can damage the work. Continue to press the work until the cloth is dry and the knitted fibres have been loosened by the steam. Then, pin the pieces to the desired shape and measurements and leave to set.

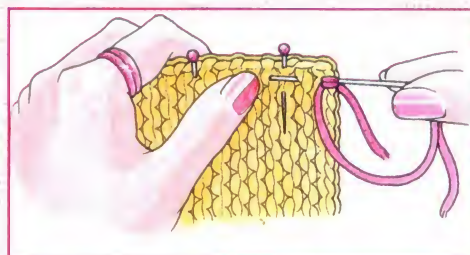


## Beginning a seam

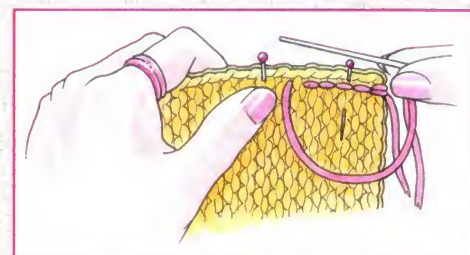


**1** With the pieces to be joined placed next to each other with right side upwards, thread the tapestry needle and push it through the fabric after the first stitch, moving the needle from front to back. Then, take the needle and push it through after the first stitch on the second piece, moving the needle from the back of the work to the front. The yarn will form a figure 8. Tug gently to secure.

## Back stitch



**1** Pin the pieces to be joined, with the right sides together. Thread the loose end of yarn onto a tapestry needle. Start by stitching the two outer edges together, then bring the needle through the two pieces 1cm from back to front ahead of the previous stitch.



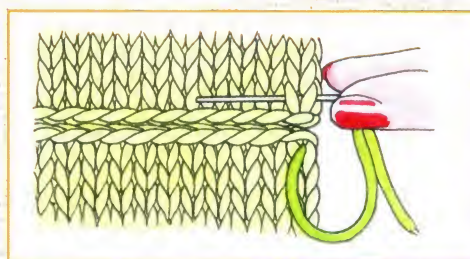
**2** Push the needle back through at the position where the yarn emerged from the previous stitch. Return it to the front of the work, approx 1cm ahead of the stitch just made. Repeat this until the whole join is complete, working in a straight line.

## Mattress stitch

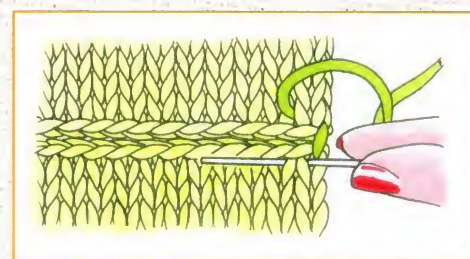


**1** With the two pieces to be joined lying next to each other, hook the horizontal bar of the first stitch with the tapestry needle. Move to the other piece and hook the first horizontal bar of the stitch on that side.  
**2** Repeat this moving from one piece to the next and pulling the yarn to tighten the join.

## Joining cast off edges



**1** Lay the two pieces to be joined right side up and with the cast off edges touching. Thread a tapestry needle with the loose yarn and push this through the centre of the first stitch, and then in and out through the centres of two stitches on the opposite side.



**2** Take the needle over to the first side and insert where it previously exited, bringing it out through the centre of the next stitch. Repeat this process alternating sides and stitching single stitches until the pieces are joined.



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MARCH ISSUE OF

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ON SALE

Friday 11th February 2011



my inspiration

# Michèle Marck

Vintage knitter Michèle shares her passion for the styles of yesteryear and explains how she hopes to inspire other women to take up her favourite hobby

**There's just so much interest in vintage and bygone eras.** Sadly real vintage sweaters haven't stood the test of time but there are so many patterns available which enable us to bring back some really fantastic styles. I learnt to knit as a child and started to make fifties bolero cardigans for myself back in the 1980s. I'd wear them out clubbing and loved it. I took up knitting again when I got married and it soon came back to me. I sell some of my finished sweaters through the vintage fairs I organise with my husband and can also make to order. It's a very small-scale operation and is purely an extension of my hobby but people are fascinated by the past and there's a demand for realistic vintage-wear.

**My favourite period is the 1940s and it's sweaters from this era that I get most interest in.** The puffed sleeves and small fitted waists are so flattering. If you watch a period programme on the TV such as Poirot or Miss Marple, the actresses always look stunning and anyone can replicate the clothes, hair, and make-up and become really glamorous. Women were so feminine back then, they covered up which leaves a lot to the imagination and shows that less is more! I've been knitting up different designs and keeping them so I can have samples to display when I set up my website. I can also wear them myself which is a definite perk!

**Knitting from vintage patterns can be difficult because of the differences in terminology and yarns.** However, I've been doing it for so long I'd probably struggle with a more modern pattern! I started collecting vintage leaflets,

mainly from eBay, and I've got a huge collection. I'm sure I have more than I could possibly knit in my lifetime so I now try to limit myself to the more unusual designs I think people would really like. I try to use vintage yarns too, which I also get online. Some of them date back to the sixties and seventies and are in ounces. I went a little bit mad and bought so much wool, my husband says we've got no more room. If I do buy it, I have to do it in secret!

**I have lots of different designs and think Fair Isle patterns are just beautiful.** I love colour, it's a real passion. I've always been interested in different combinations and it helps to

know which colours go together when you're knitting. The only trouble with these designs is that they take so long to knit! Sometimes I think people don't realise how much time and effort it takes to produce a detailed handknitted garment and are put off by the price. While they can buy something cheaper in a chain store, it's not going to last as long as it won't be as special.

**My husband and I started organising 1940s dances a few years ago.** We had live bands and it was great fun but it was expensive. We then broadened out to include a vintage fair with the event and have now dropped the dance side completely. Our old venue was a little village hall near Chelmsford but it was too tiny to cope with the numbers. My husband suggested expanding to a larger hall which was a big gamble but it worked out and we get up to 850 visitors each time. It shows how much interest there is in vintage and I don't think that will ever go away.

**My waiting list is huge!** I've had to stop taking orders for the moment as it wouldn't be fair to agree to make a sweater only for the customer to wait for over a year to get it. I don't farm the knitting out to anyone else as I want to keep it just me. A lot of the sweaters I sell at the fairs are quite small, so I take orders for larger sizes and can then adjust the vintage pattern to suit but it does take time. I also have a full time job, run the fairs and have a blog and when you're a knitter, all those things mean you're not actually knitting!

**It's so nice to get admiration from other women and I'd like to think my sweaters could inspire them to go back to knitting, just like I did.**

I couldn't find the kind of garments I wanted in the shops so chose to knit my own. I can pick the colour, the shape and make it to measure, and if I want to match a particular skirt or outfit I just find the yarn and off I go. There are lots of women who learnt to knit when they were younger but have given it up. It's such a shame that they're letting that skill go because it's so enjoyable and you can make almost anything.

**Find out more about Michèle's vintage fairs and keep up-to-date with her knitting and non-knitting adventures at [www.michelesvintageknitwear.blogspot.com](http://www.michelesvintageknitwear.blogspot.com)**





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